

2 QuinRose X Soumei Hoshino

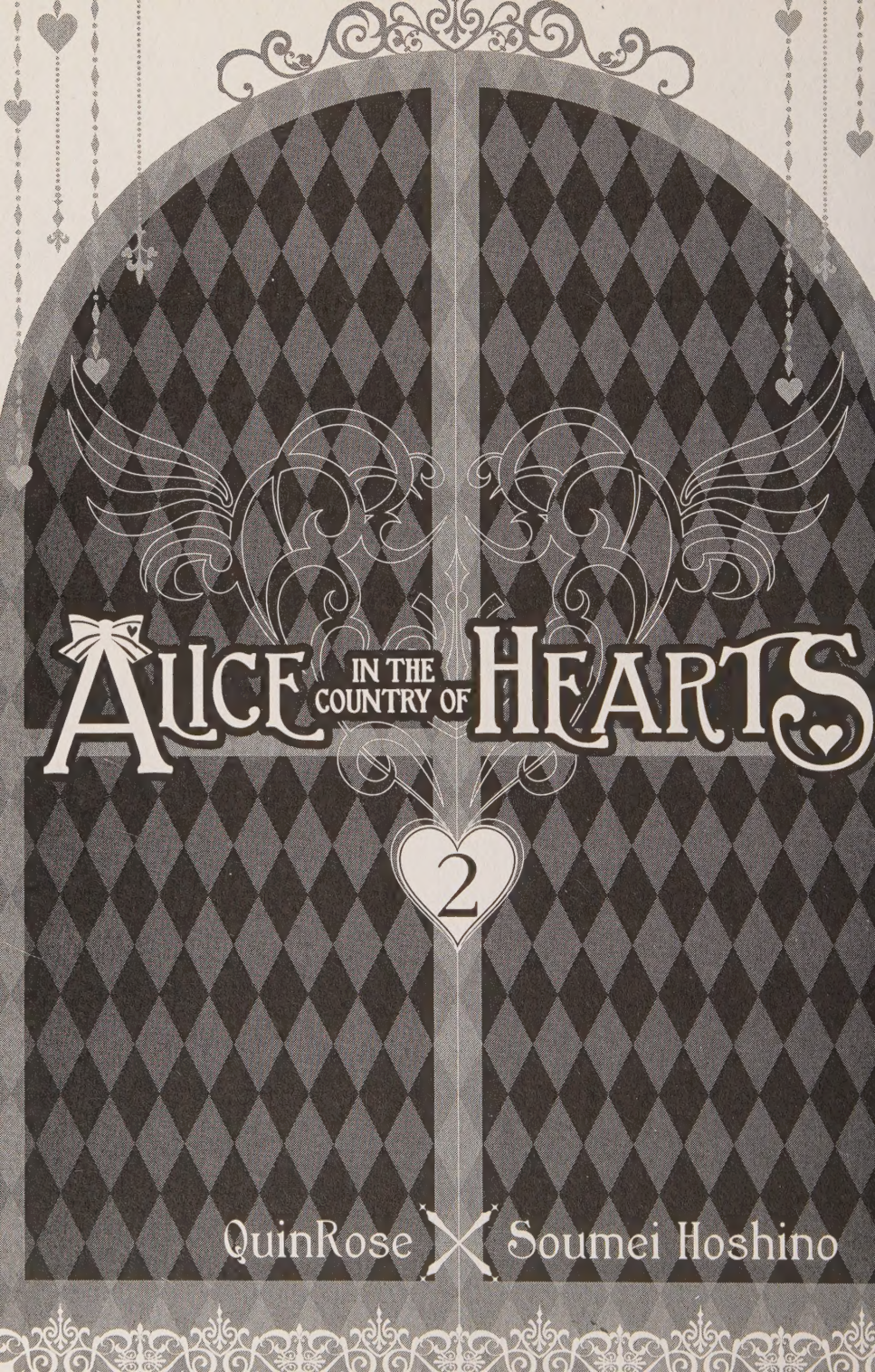


VICE IN THE COUNTRY OF HEARTS



ALICE IN THE COUNTRY OF HEARTS



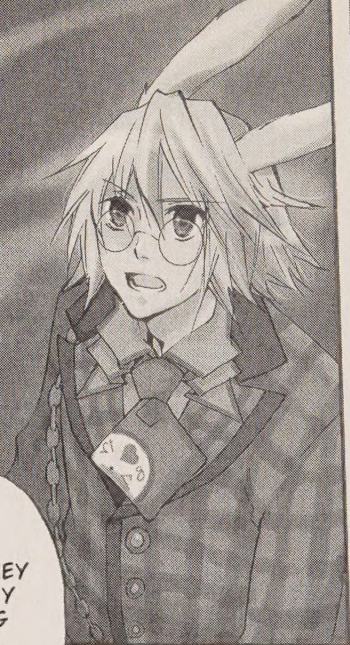


ALICE IN THE COUNTRY OF HEARTS

2

QuinRose X Soumei Hoshino





ARE THEY
REALLY
GOING
WELL...



...HOW
ARE
THINGS?



...NIGHT-
MARE?

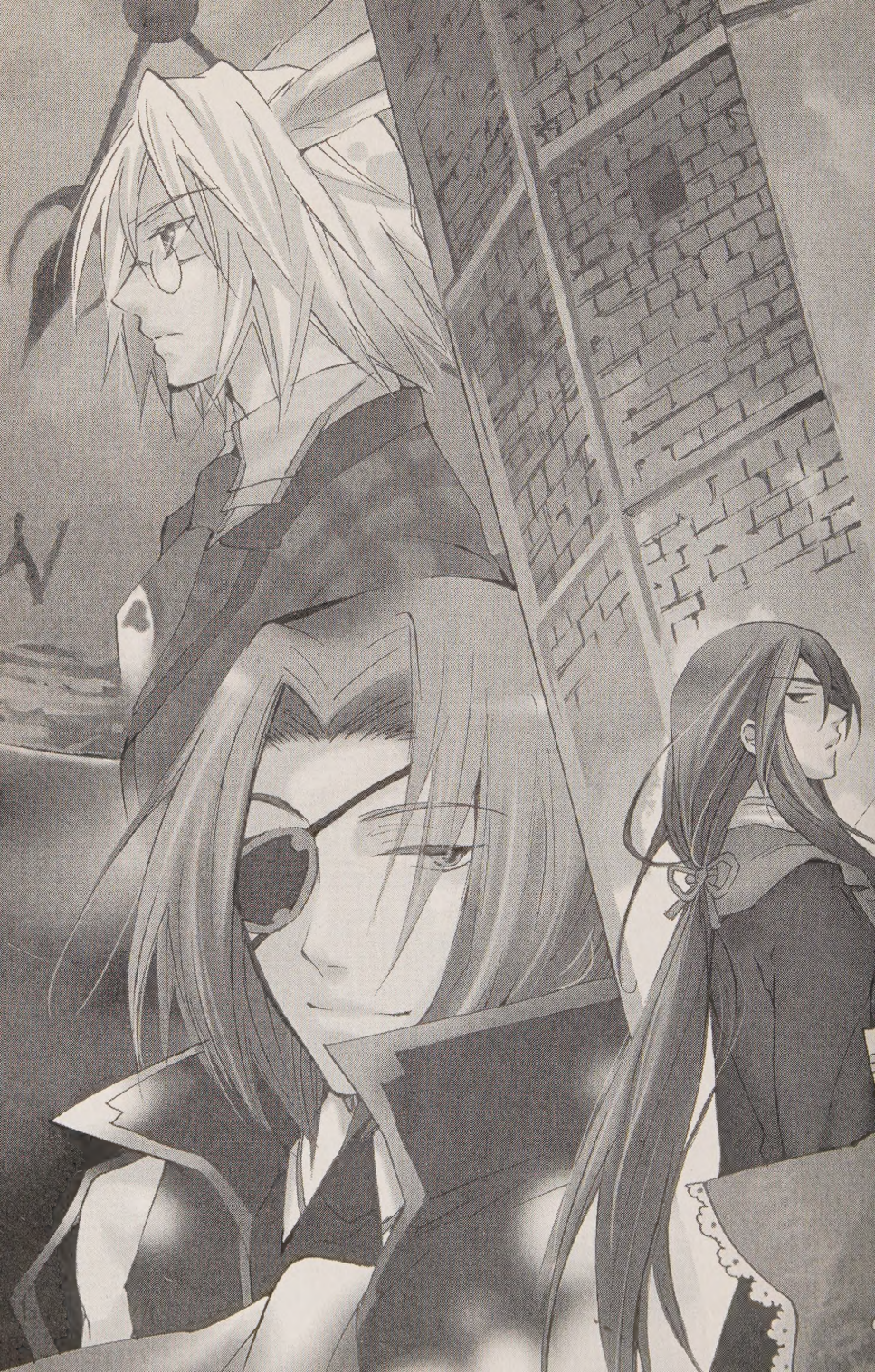
ALICE IN THE COUNTRY OF HEARTS



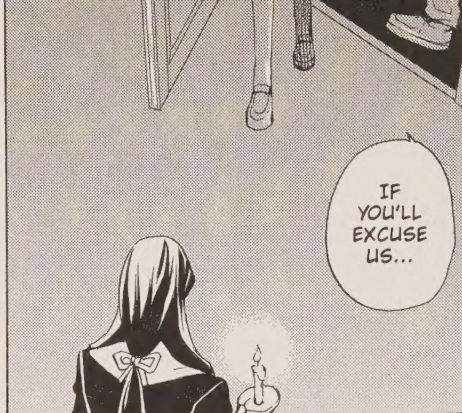
C O N T E N T S

12 ♥	Adaptation ... 5
13 ♥	Doubt ... 31
14 ♥	Disjointing Flower ... 69
15 ♥	Crooked Love ... 105
16 ♥	Sweet Dream Taste ... 129
17 ♥	Declaration ... 159
18 ♥	Let's go comfortably! ... 187
19 ♥	Whereabouts ... 211
20 ♥	Twilight ... 235
21 ♥	Knight ... 257
22 ♥	Coming Uneasiness ... 273
23 ♥	Desire ... 289
24 ♥	Letter of Invitation ... 307

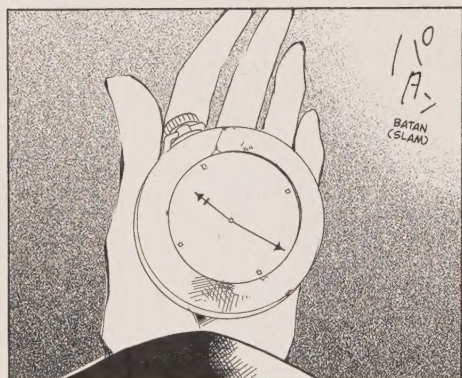
ALICE IN THE COUNTRY OF JOKER







IF
YOU'LL
EXCUSE
US...



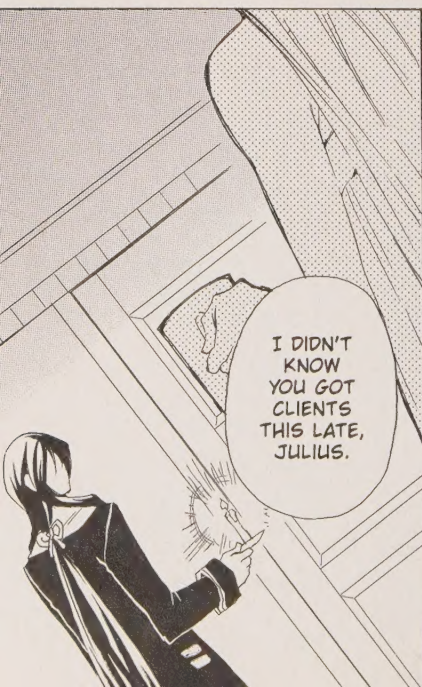
110
A.
BATAN
(SLAM)



THANK
YOU VERY
MUCH...

...CLOCK
MAKER
JULIUS.

10
10
PEKO
(BOW)



I DIDN'T
KNOW
YOU GOT
CLIENTS
THIS LATE,
JULIUS.

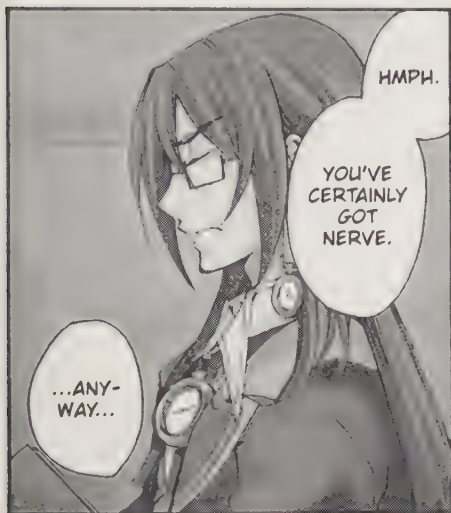


...HMPH.



I ASSUMED
YOU'D LEFT
FOR GOOD.

...I'M
SURPRISED
YOU CAME
BACK.



HMPH.

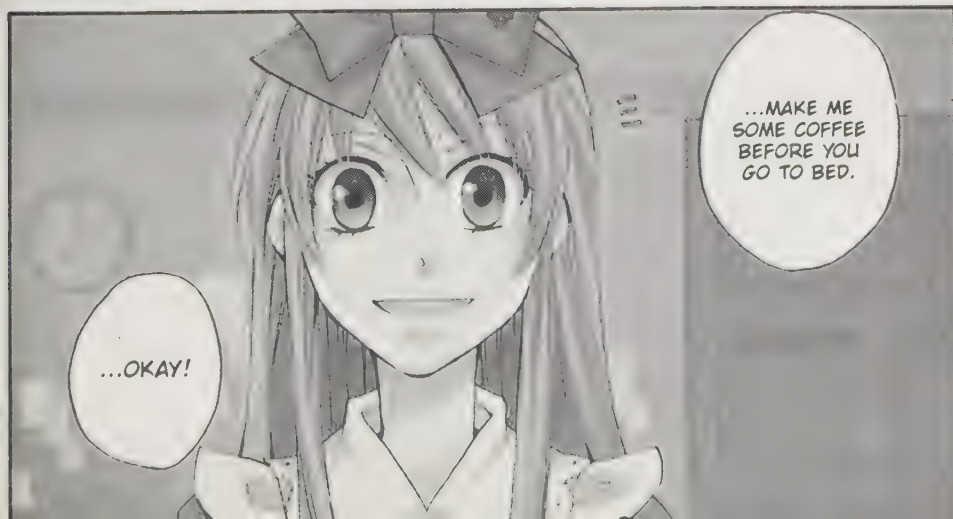
YOU'VE
CERTAINLY
GOT
NERVE.

...ANY-
WAY...



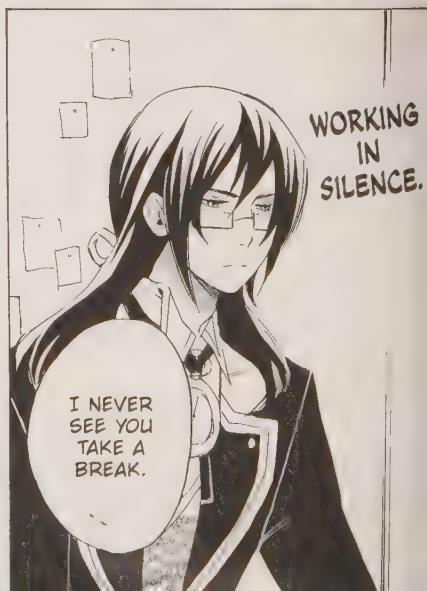
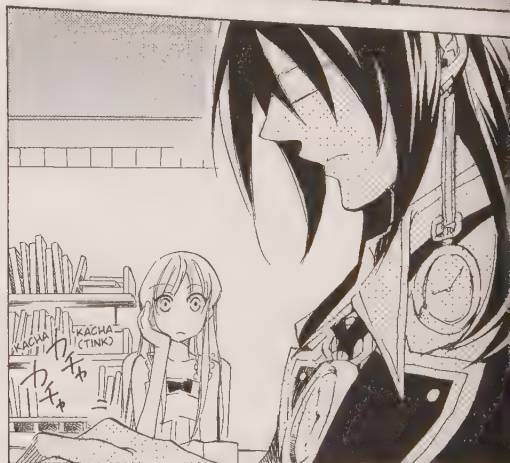
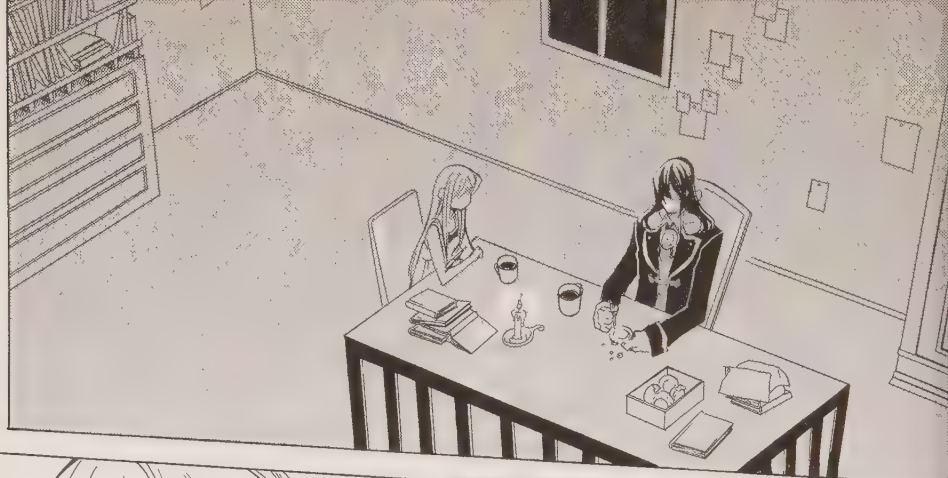
I DIDN'T
SAY
ANYTHING
LIKE THAT,
DID I?

IT GOT
DARK, AND
I GOT
TIRED. SO
I CAME
BACK.



...MAKE ME
SOME COFFEE
BEFORE YOU
GO TO BED.

...OKAY!



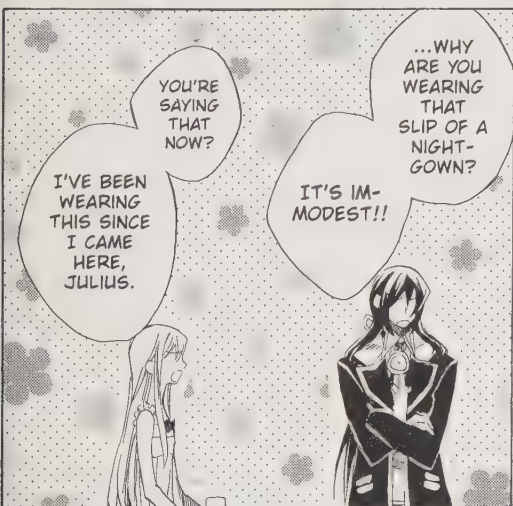


...YOU...



YOU'RE
STILL
AWAKE?

WELL,
YEAH. I
PROMISED
TO MAKE
YOU
COFFEE.

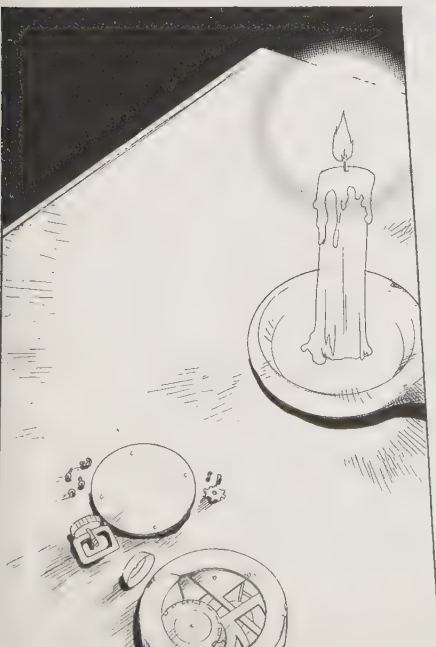


YOU'RE
SAYING
THAT
NOW?

I'VE BEEN
WEARING
THIS SINCE
I CAME
HERE,
JULIUS.

IT'S IM-
MODEST!!

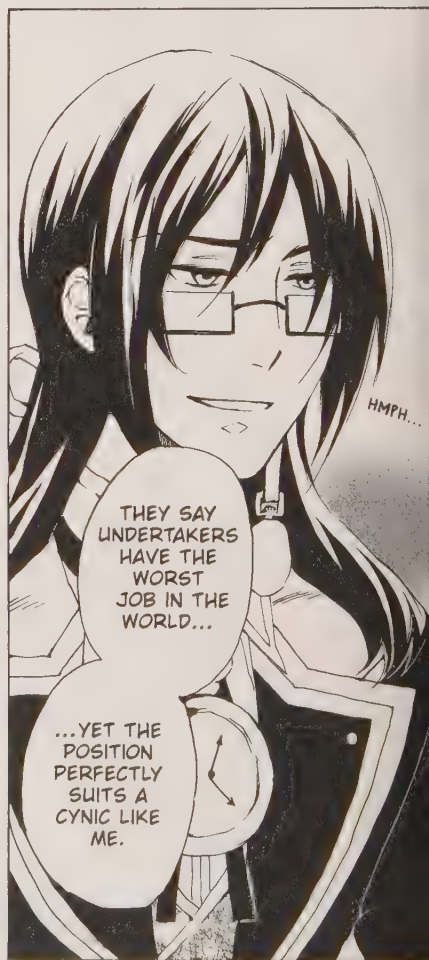
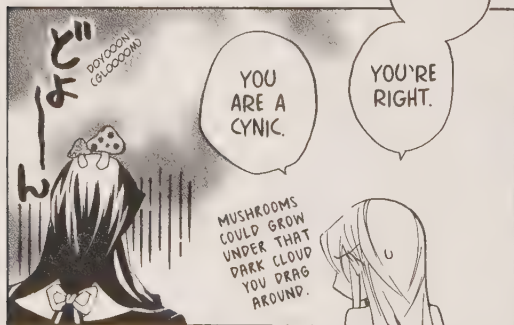
...WHY
ARE YOU
WEARING
THAT
SLIP OF A
NIGHT-
GOWN?

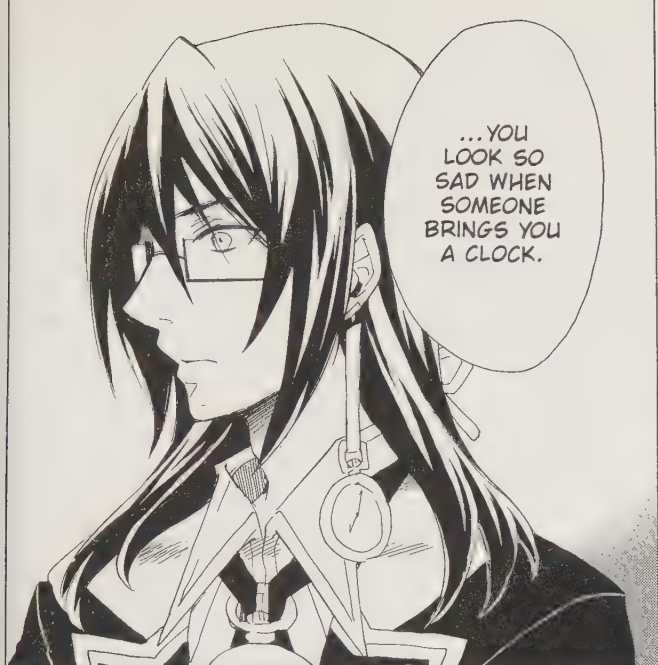


THAT
ASIDE...

...HERE.

DRINK
IT BEFORE
IT GETS
COLD.

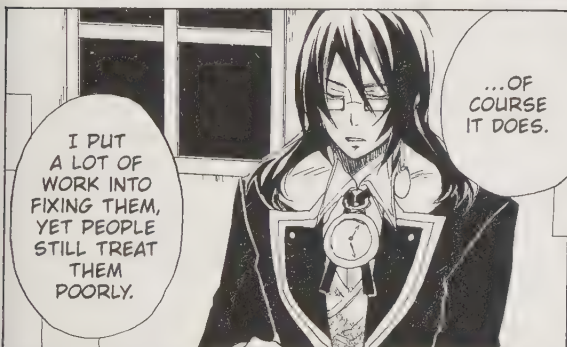




...YOU
LOOK SO
SAD WHEN
SOMEONE
BRINGS YOU
A CLOCK.



IT'S
JUST...

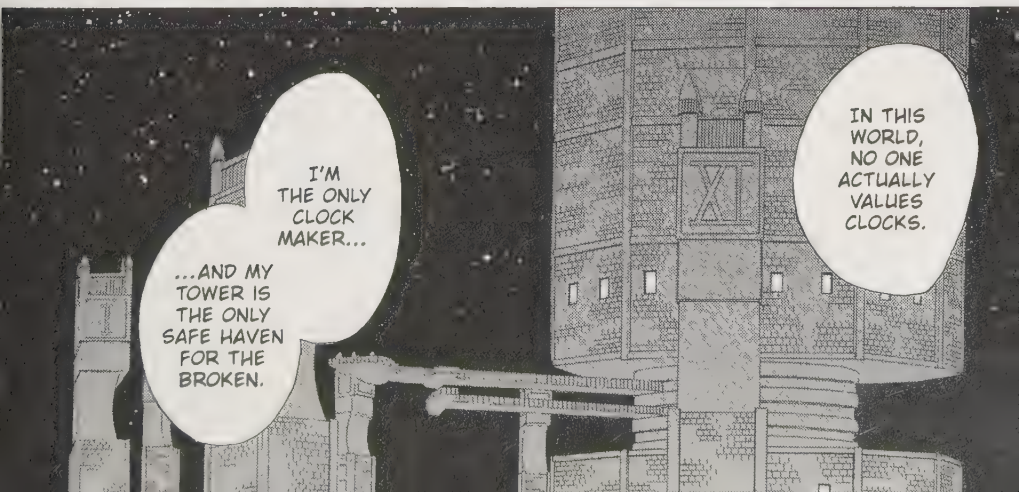


I PUT
A LOT OF
WORK INTO
FIXING THEM,
YET PEOPLE
STILL TREAT
THEM
POORLY.

...OF
COURSE
IT DOES.



LIKE
SEEING
BROKEN
CLOCKS
DEPRESSES
YOU.



I'M
THE ONLY
CLOCK
MAKER...

...AND MY
TOWER IS
THE ONLY
SAFE HAVEN
FOR THE
BROKEN.

IN THIS
WORLD,
NO ONE
ACTUALLY
VALUES
CLOCKS.



THAT'S
NOT IT.

THINGS
LIKE SEEING
THE AFTER-
IMAGES AND
HEARING THE
SOUND OF
TICKING IN
PLACE OF A
HEARTBEAT
CONFUSED
ME.



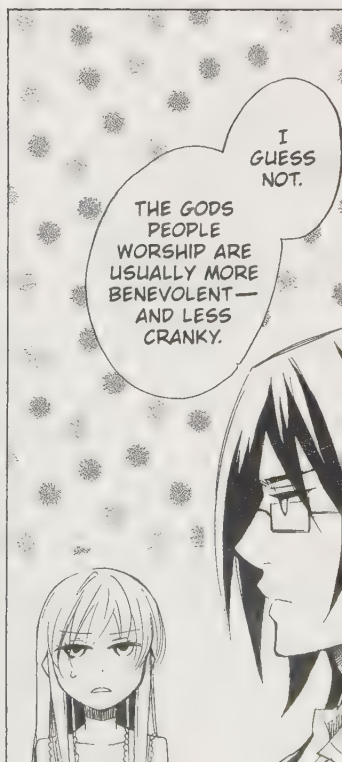
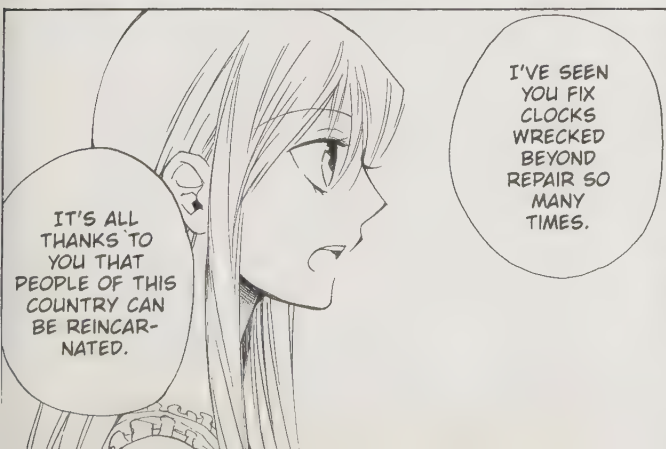
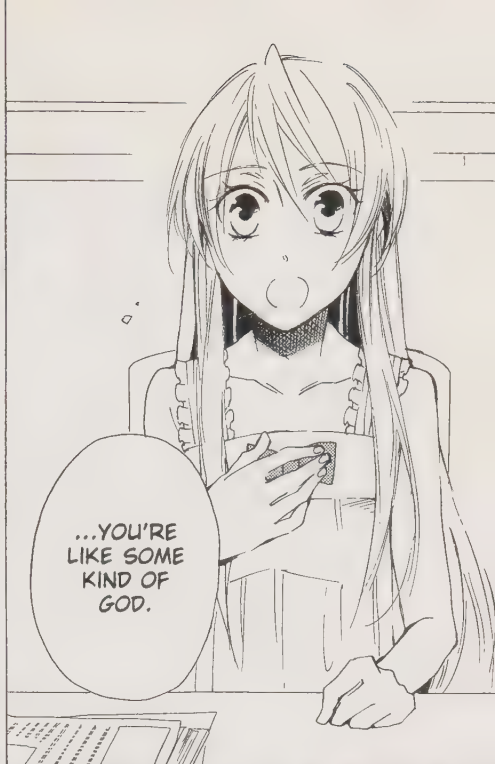
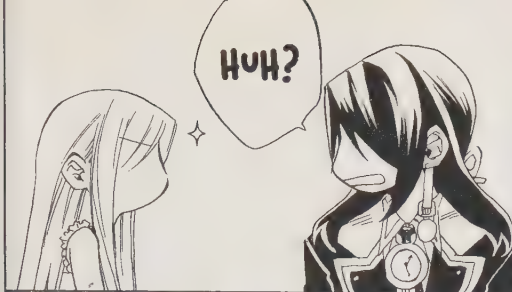
...I
THOUGHT
MY WORK
FRIGHTENED
YOU.

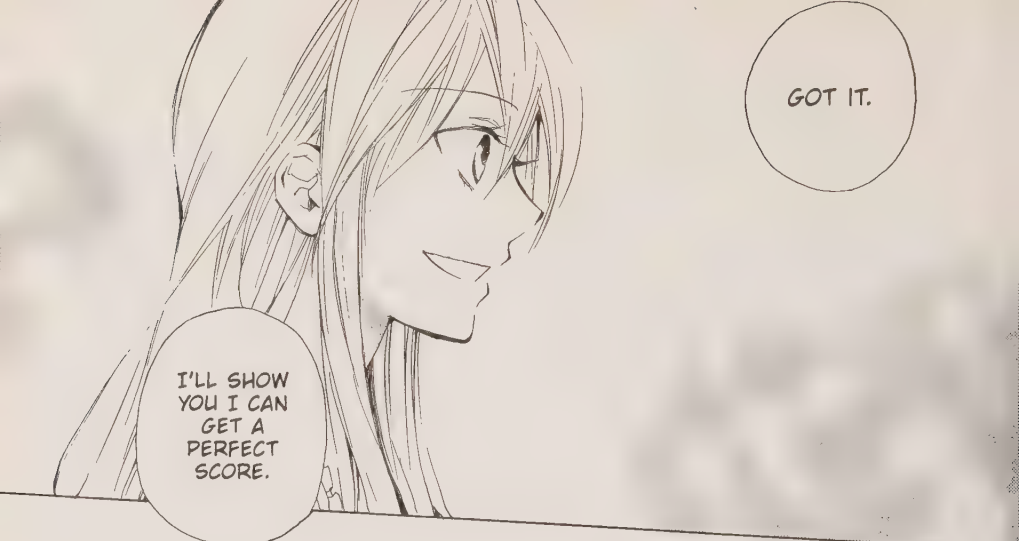
DIDN'T
YOU RUN
AWAY
BECAUSE OF
THAT?



THE
PEOPLE
OF THIS
COUNTRY
CAN MAKE
FIREARMS
LIKE MAGIC,
BUT...

...I MUCH
PREFER
WATCHING
YOUR MAGICAL
WORK ON
CLOCKS THAN
THOSE VIOLENT
TRICKS.





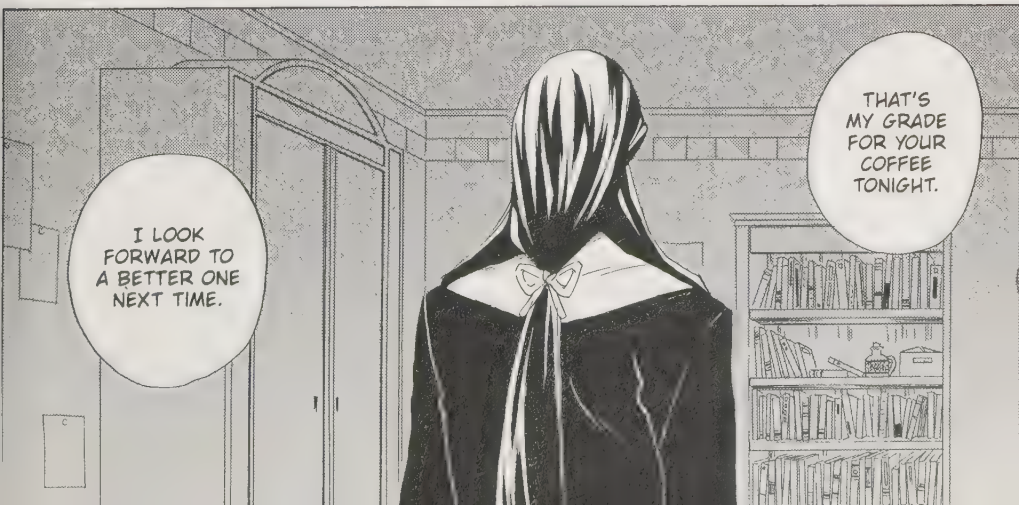
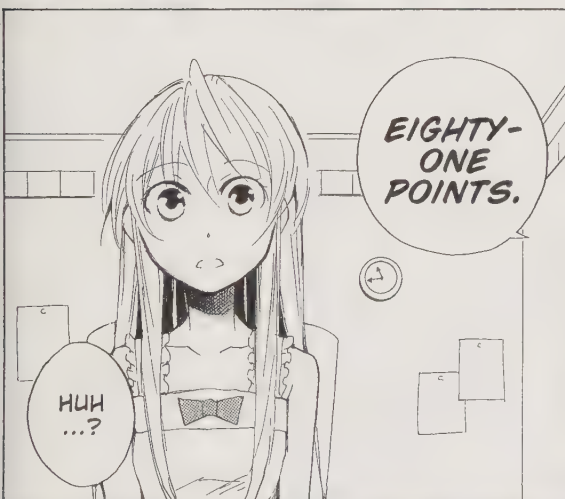
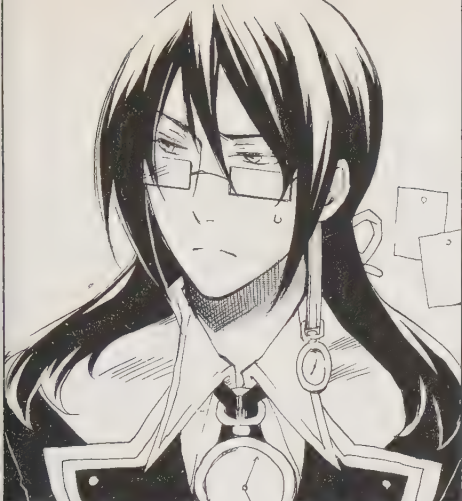
GOT IT.

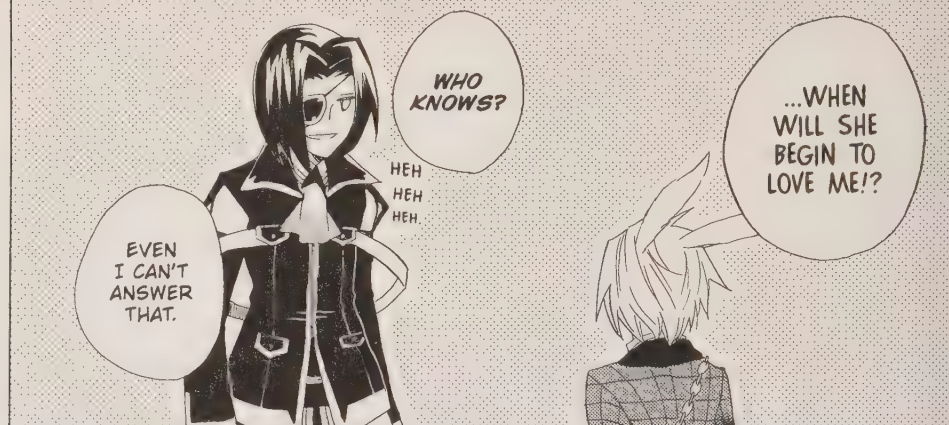
I'LL SHOW
YOU I CAN
GET A
PERFECT
SCORE.



...SEE?
LITTLE BY
LITTLE...

...SHE'S
GETTING
USED
TO THIS
WORLD.



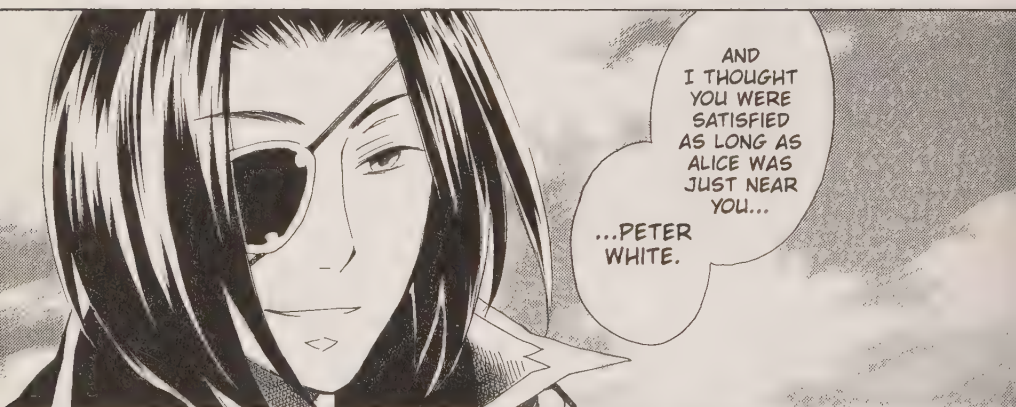


WHO KNOWS?

HEH
HEH
HEH.

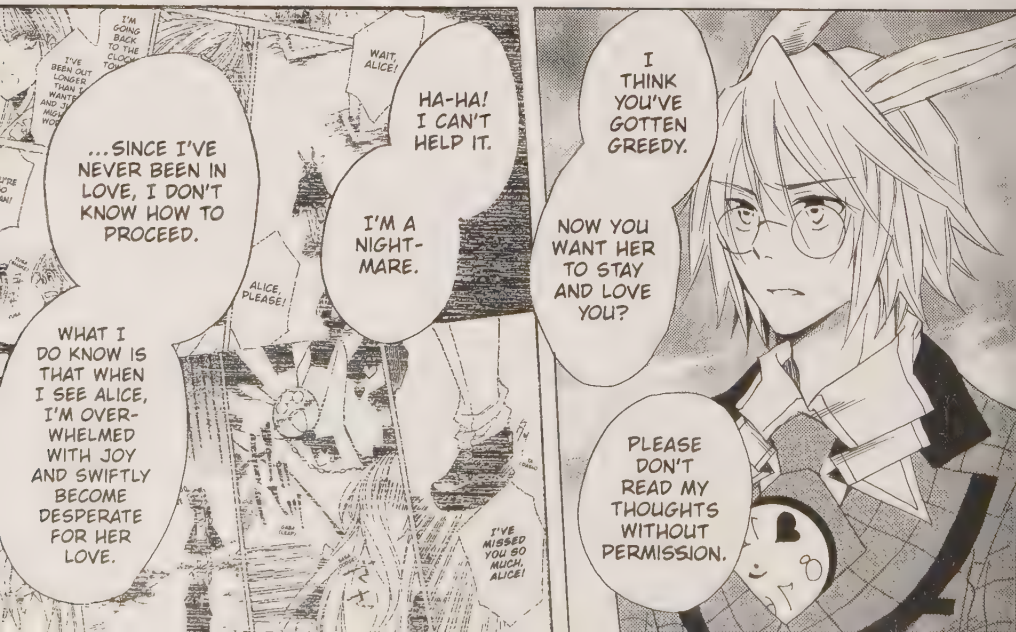
EVEN
I CAN'T
ANSWER
THAT.

...WHEN
WILL SHE
BEGIN TO
LOVE ME!?



AND
I THOUGHT
YOU WERE
SATISFIED
AS LONG AS
ALICE WAS
JUST NEAR
YOU...

...PETER
WHITE.



I
THINK
YOU'VE
GOTTEN
GREEDY.

NOW YOU
WANT HER
TO STAY
AND LOVE
YOU?

PLEASE
DON'T
READ MY
THOUGHTS
WITHOUT
PERMISSION.

HA-HA!
I CAN'T
HELP IT.

I'M A
NIGHT-
MARE.

...SINCE I'VE
NEVER BEEN IN
LOVE, I DON'T
KNOW HOW TO
PROCEED.

WHAT I
DO KNOW IS
THAT WHEN
I SEE ALICE,
I'M OVER-
WHELMED
WITH JOY
AND SWIFTLY
BECOME
DESPERATE
FOR HER
LOVE.

ALICE,
PLEASE!

I'VE
MISSED
YOU SO
MUCH,
ALICE!

I'M
GOING
BACK
TO THE
CLOCK
TOWER

WAIT,
ALICE!

YOU
DID
IT
TO
ME!

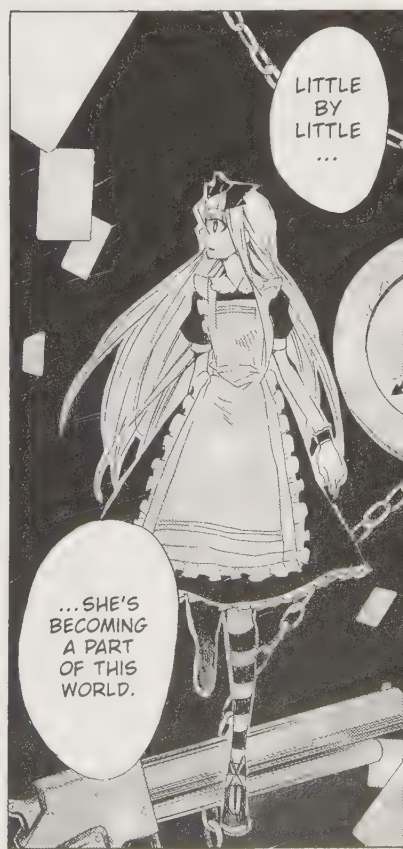
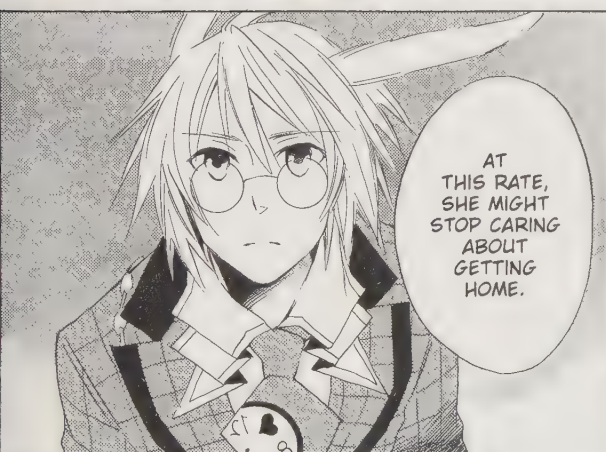
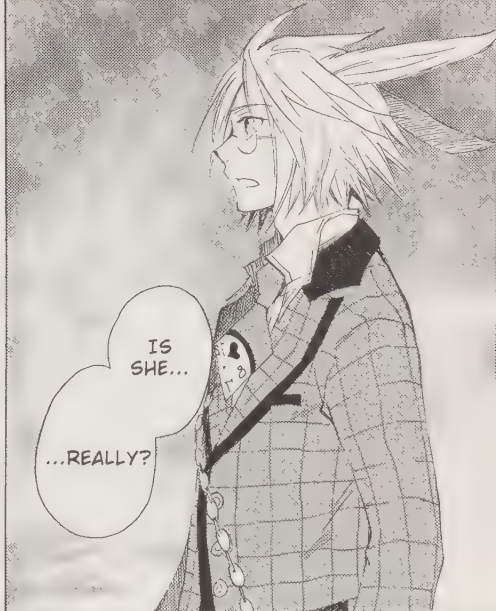
YOU
DID
IT
TO
ME!

YOU
DID
IT
TO
ME!

YOU
DID
IT
TO
ME!

YOU
DID
IT
TO
ME!

YOU
DID
IT
TO
ME!

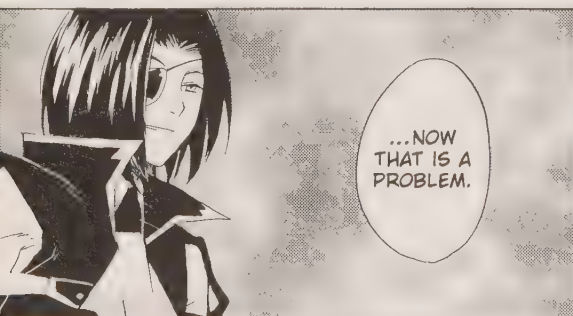




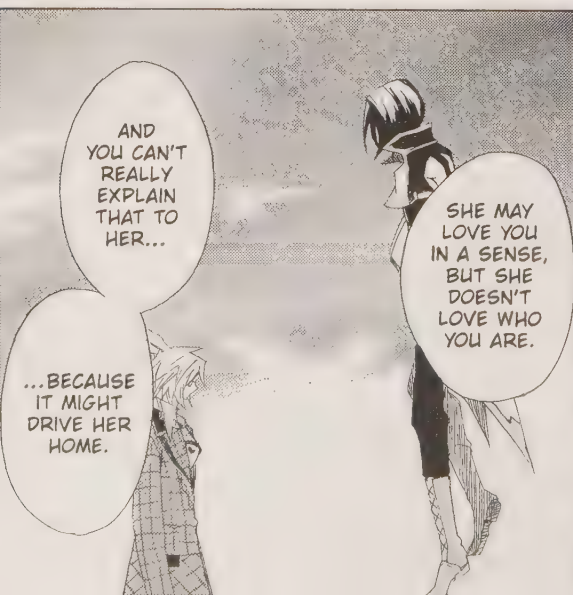
ISN'T
THAT
HOW IT
WORKS!?

THAT
WAS THE
REASON...

...I WAS
ABLE TO
BRING HER
HERE.



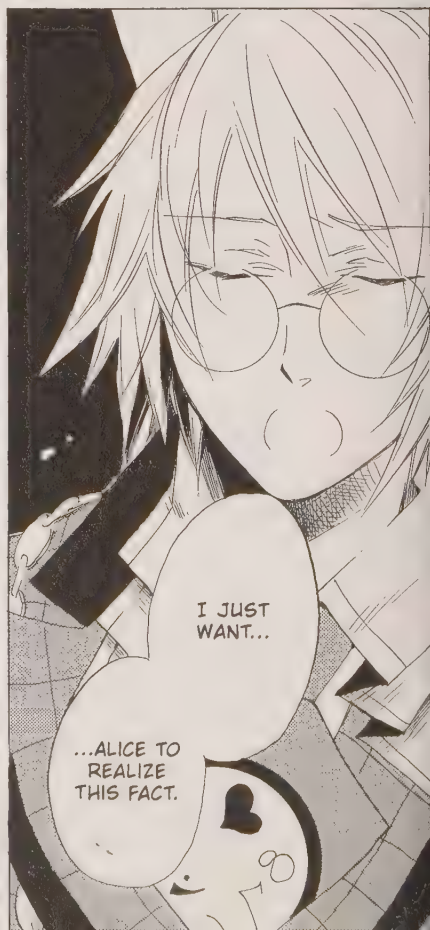
...NOW
THAT IS A
PROBLEM.



AND
YOU CAN'T
REALLY
EXPLAIN
THAT TO
HER...

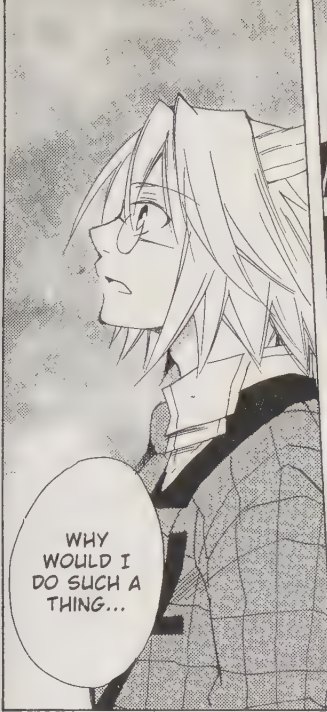
SHE MAY
LOVE YOU
IN A SENSE,
BUT SHE
DOESN'T
LOVE WHO
YOU ARE.

...BECAUSE
IT MIGHT
DRIVE HER
HOME.

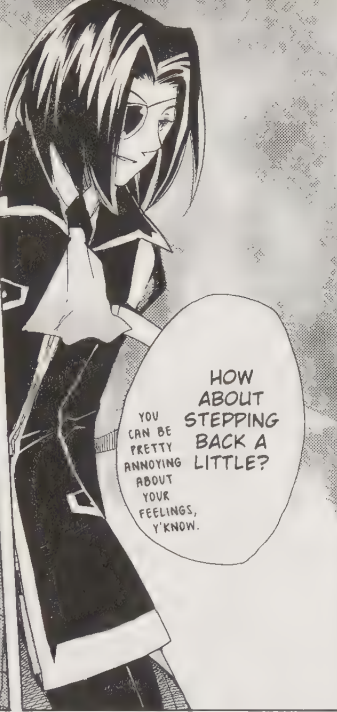


I JUST
WANT...

...ALICE TO
REALIZE
THIS FACT.



WHY
WOULD I
DO SUCH A
THING...

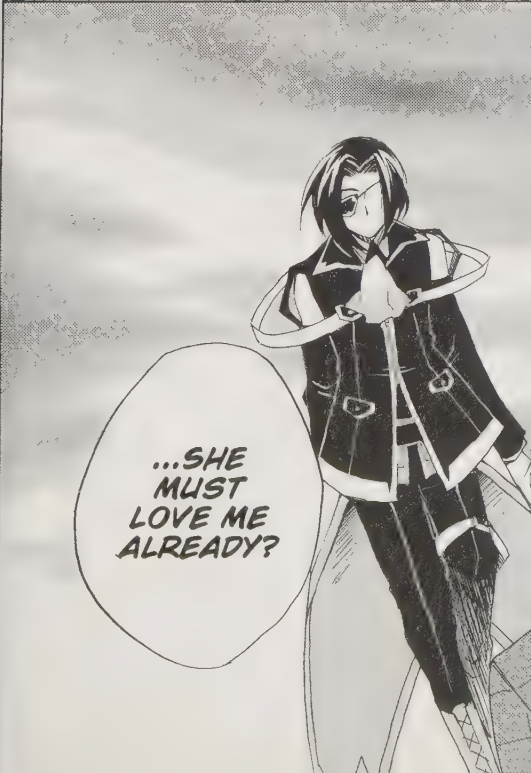


HOW
ABOUT
STEPPING
BACK A
LITTLE?
YOU
CAN BE
PRETTY
ANNOYING
ABOUT
YOUR
FEELINGS,
Y'KNOW.

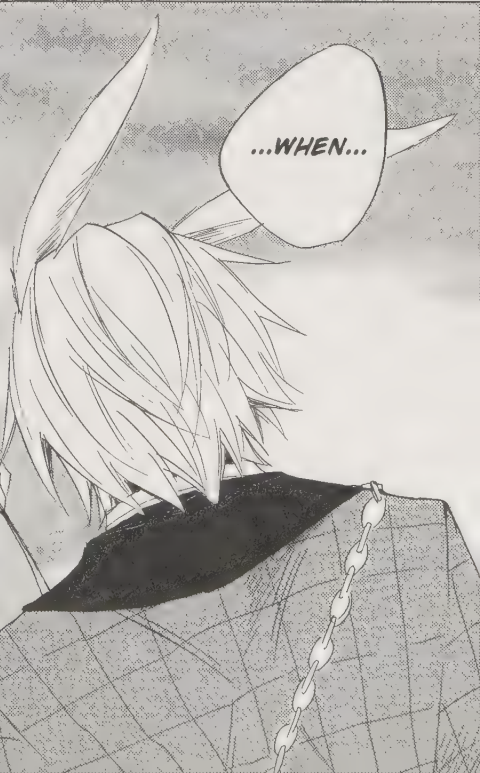


YET
WHAT-
EVER I
TRY...

...I FEEL
LIKE I'M
PUSHING
HER
AWAY.



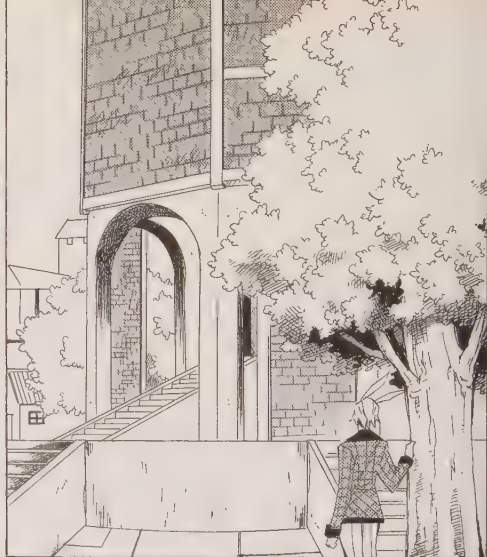
...SHE
MUST
LOVE ME
ALREADY?



...WHEN...



ALICE...



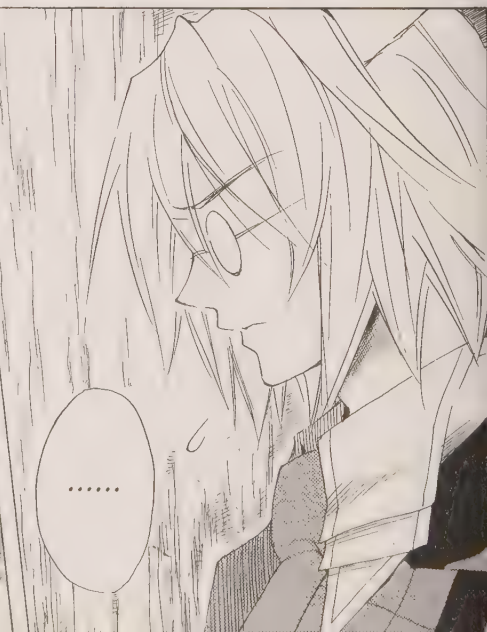
I'LL
NEVER
LOVE YOU,
OKAY?

NOW,
GOOD
NIGHT.

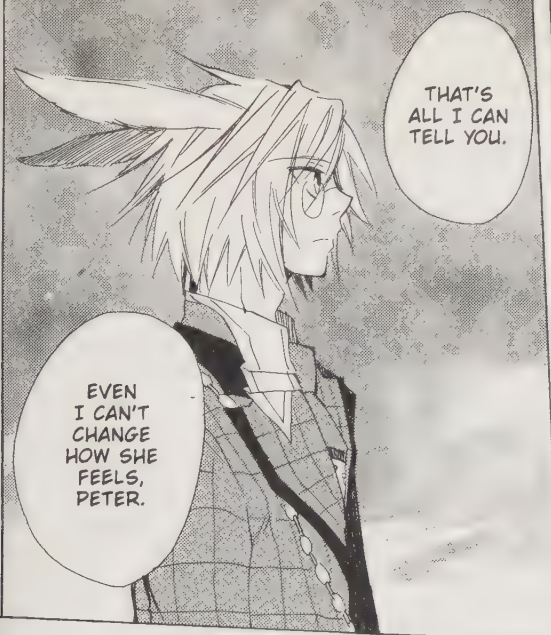


BA.
(SMASH)

はっ

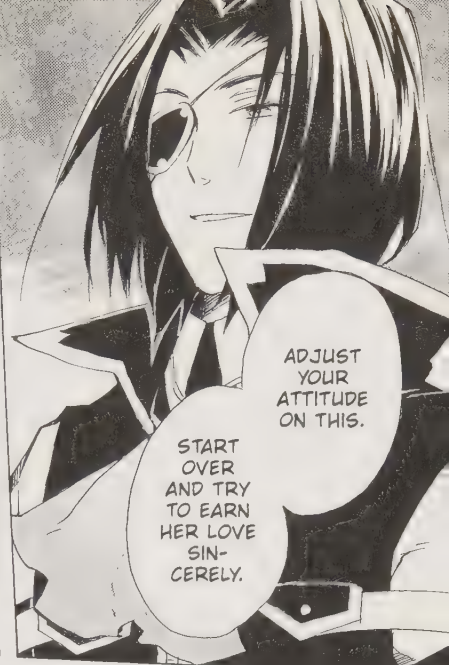


.....



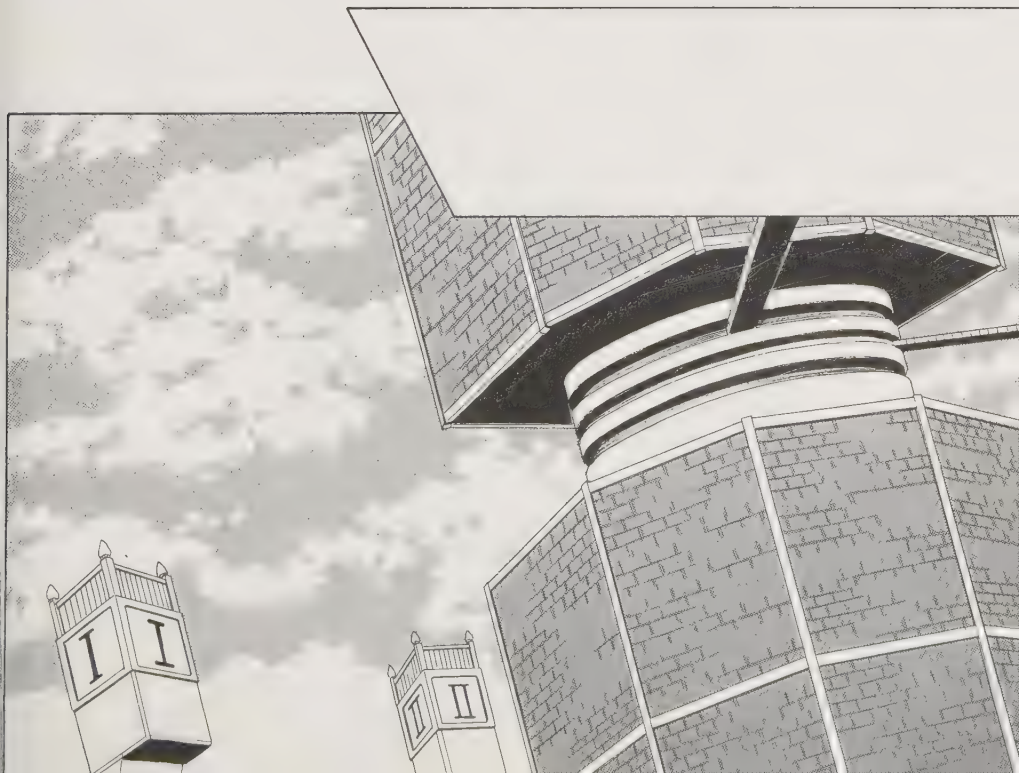
THAT'S
ALL I CAN
TELL YOU.

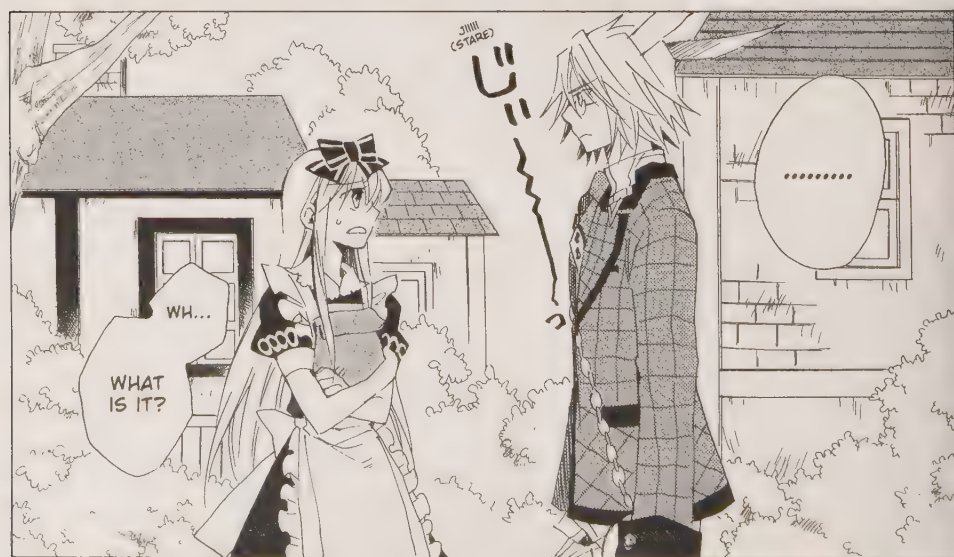
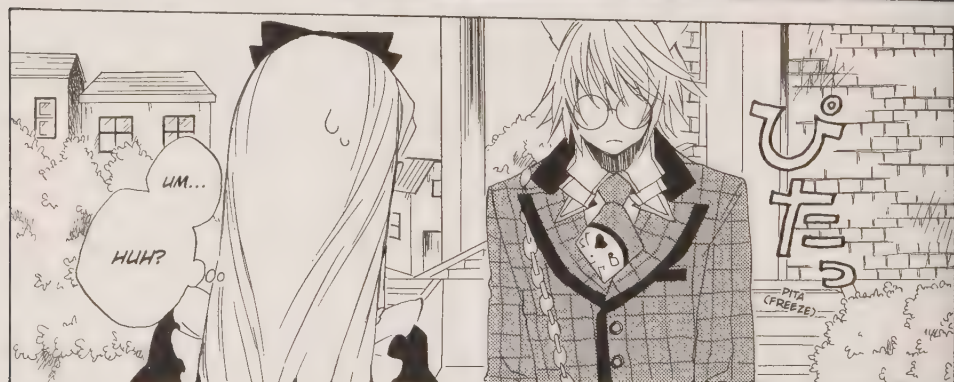
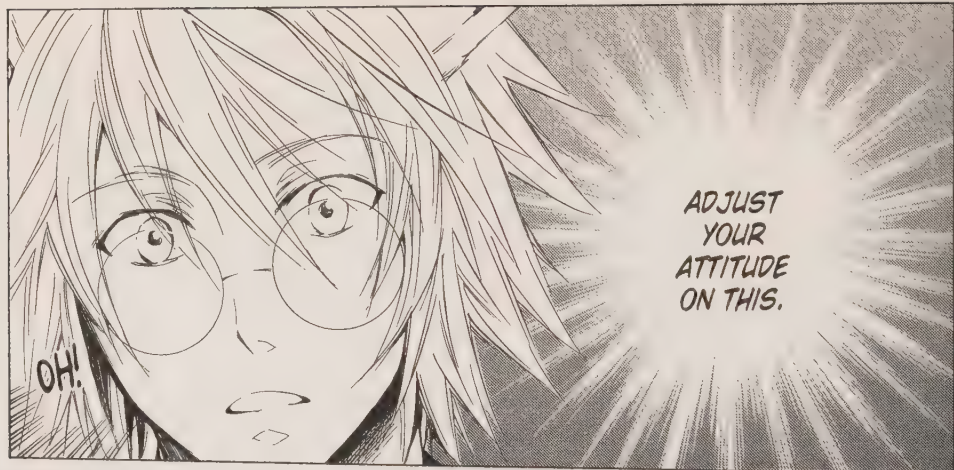
EVEN
I CAN'T
CHANGE
HOW SHE
FEELS,
PETER.

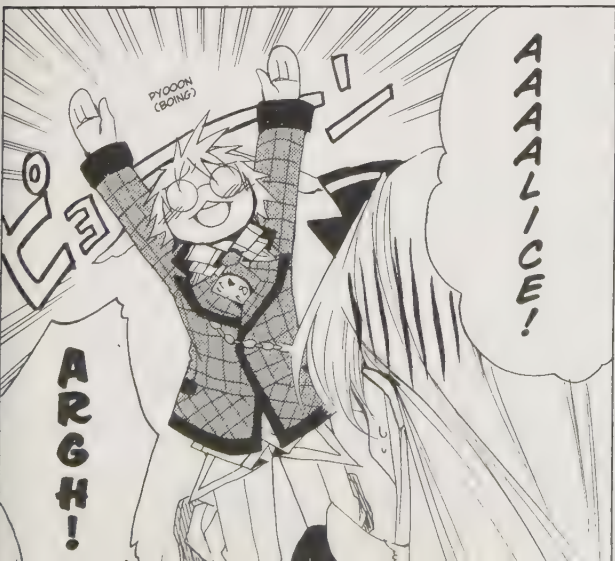
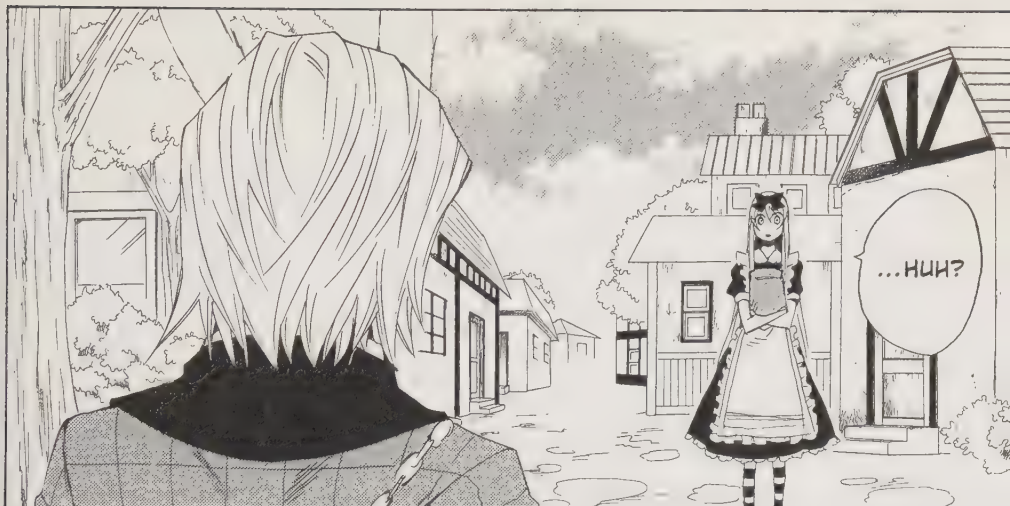


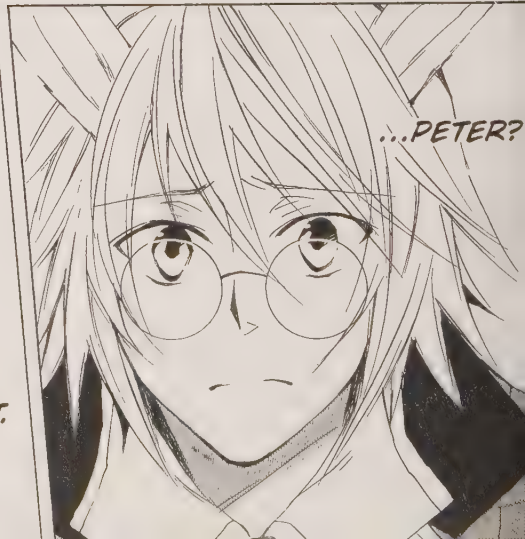
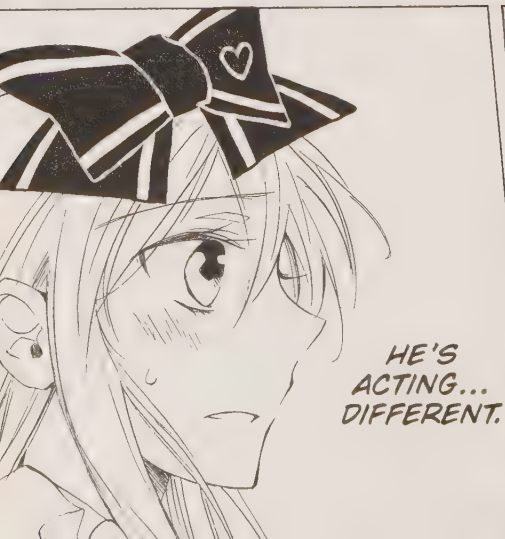
ADJUST
YOUR
ATTITUDE
ON THIS.

START
OVER
AND TRY
TO EARN
HER LOVE
SIN-
CERELY.











**AGG-
GMFF!**
(AAAHH!)

FUGO
(WHIFF)

777

777

FUGO

**I CAN'T!
I JUST
CAN'T
HOLD IT
BACK!**

GABA
(GRAB)



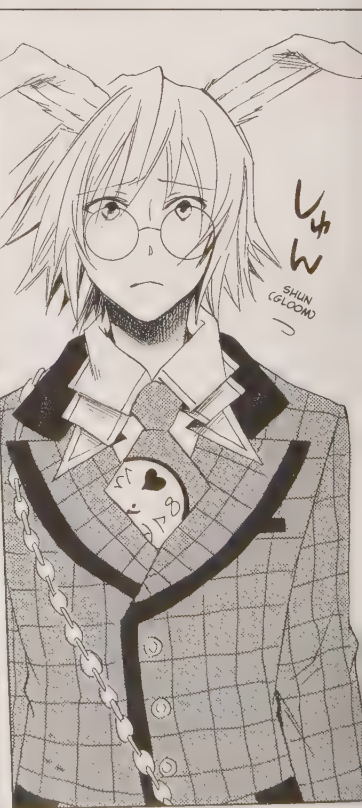
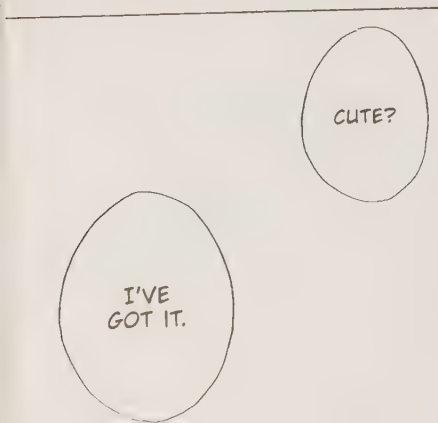
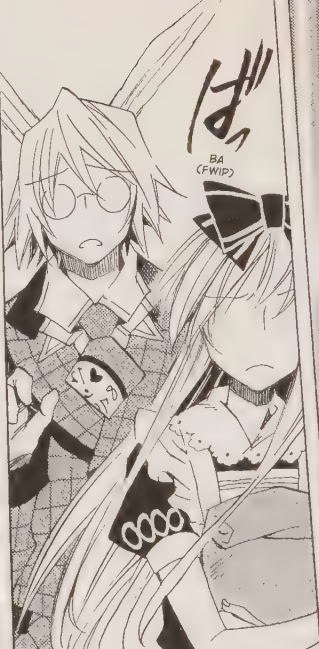
**LET
ME
GO!**

**I
ALREADY
SAID THE
FEELING
ISN'T
MUTUAL!**



**I
LOVE
YOU,
ALICE.**

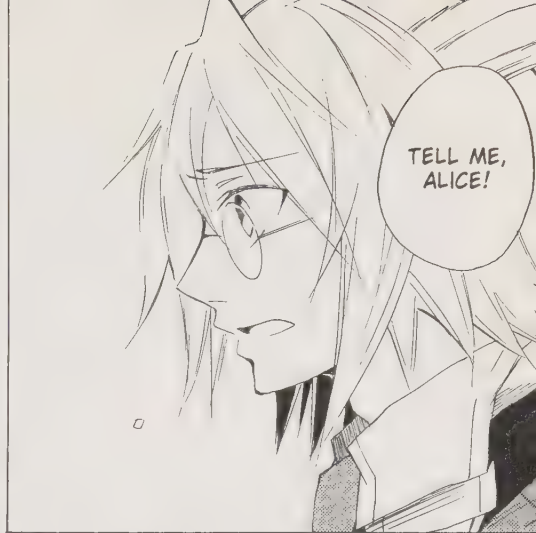
**I LOVE
YOU!!**





I DOUBT
I COULD
EVER LOVE
YOU.

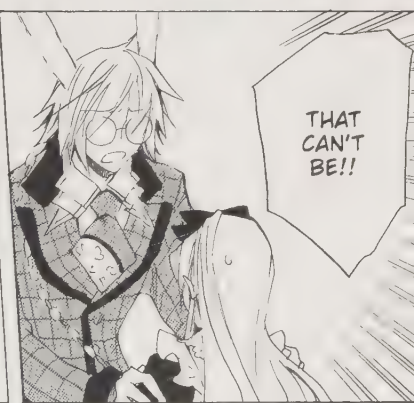
UM...
I DON'T
KNOW.



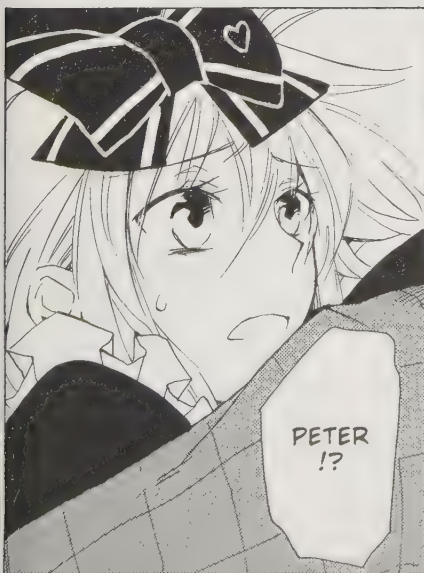
TELL ME,
ALICE!



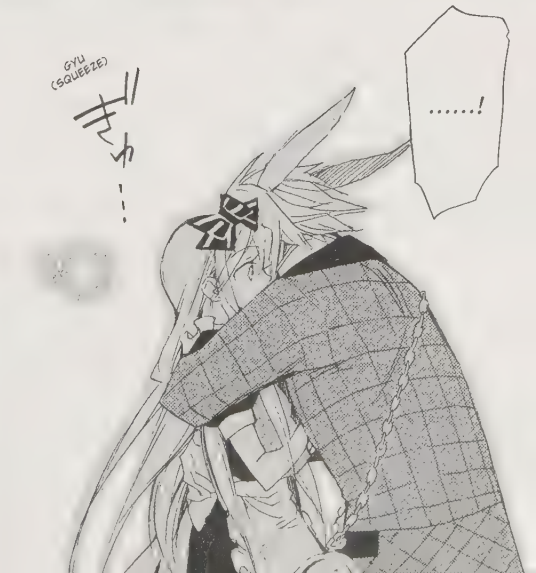
THAT
CAN'T...



THAT
CAN'T
BE!!



PETER
!?



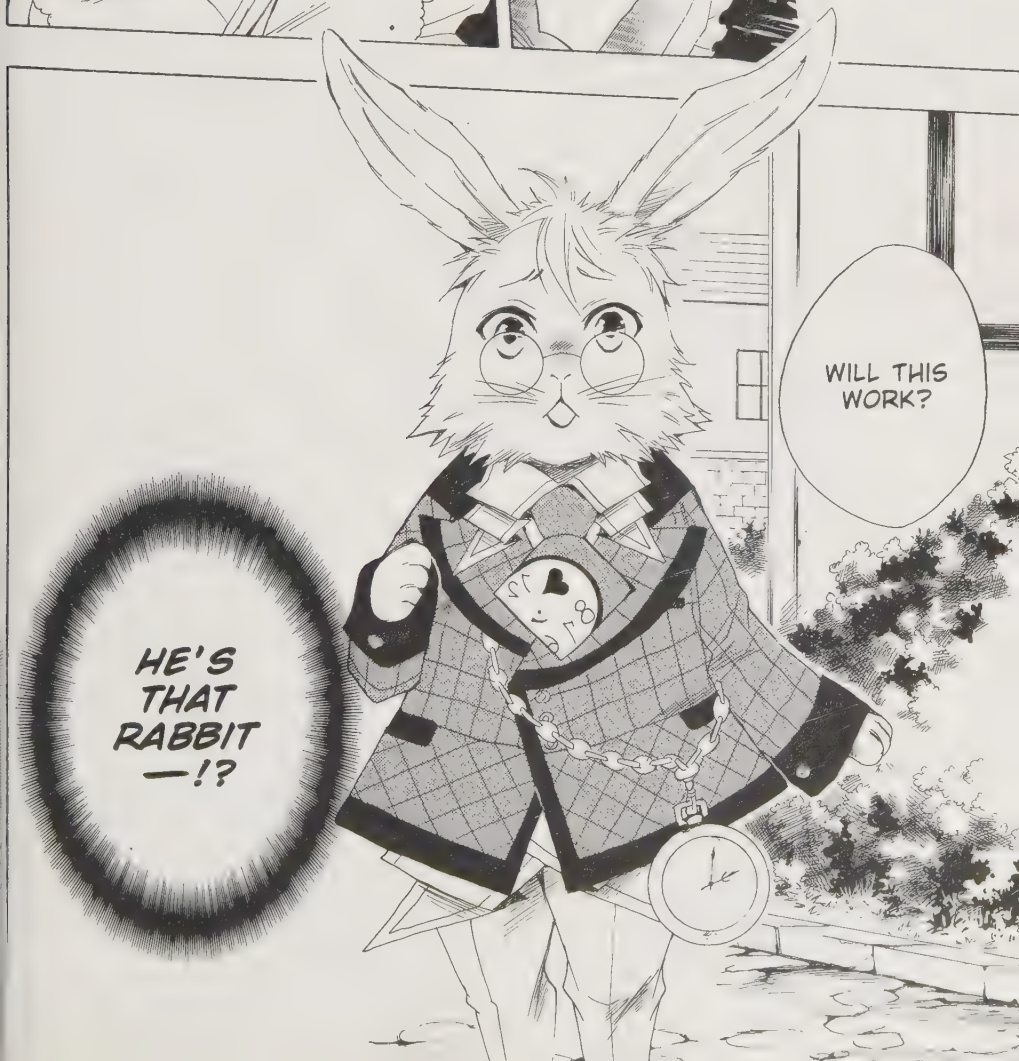
GYU
(SQUEEZE)

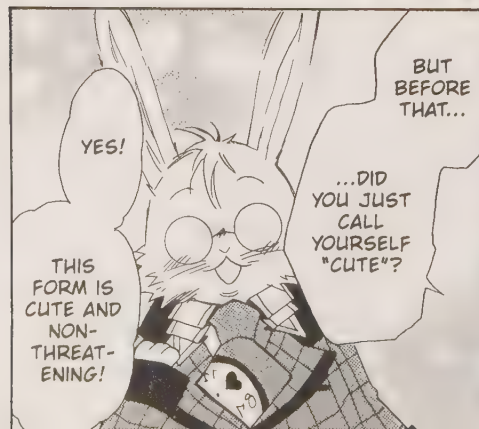
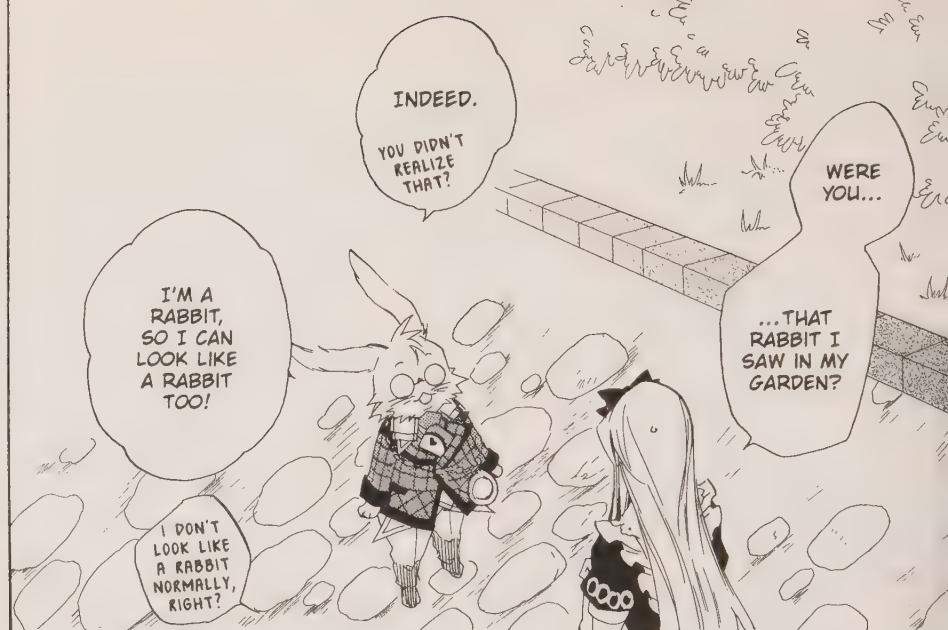
.....!





SHIRO
(FRODO)







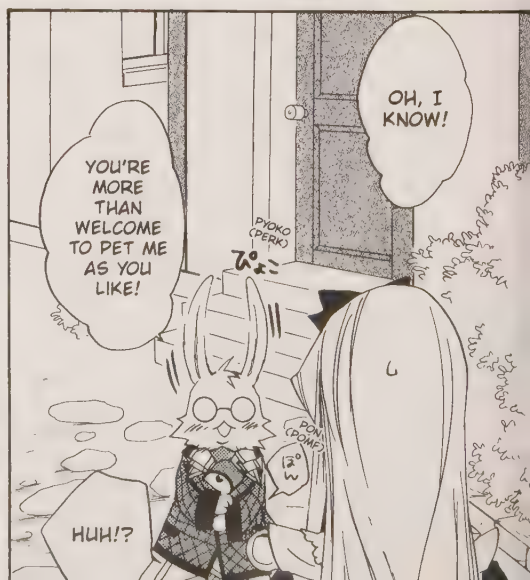
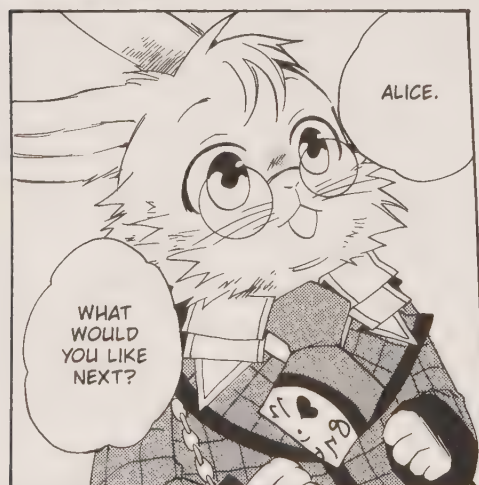
HOW DO
YOU LIKE
THIS
FORM?

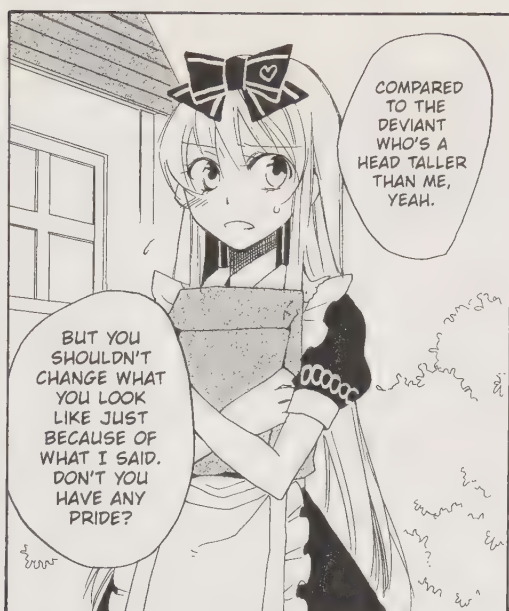
DO YOU
THINK
YOU CAN
LOVE ME
NOW?

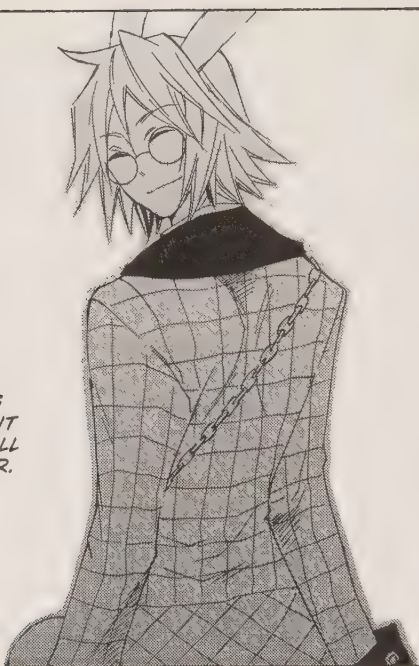
CUTE,
HUH?



UH...
PETER
...!?







THIS
RABBIT
IS STILL
PETER.



...WHAT
AM I
DOING?

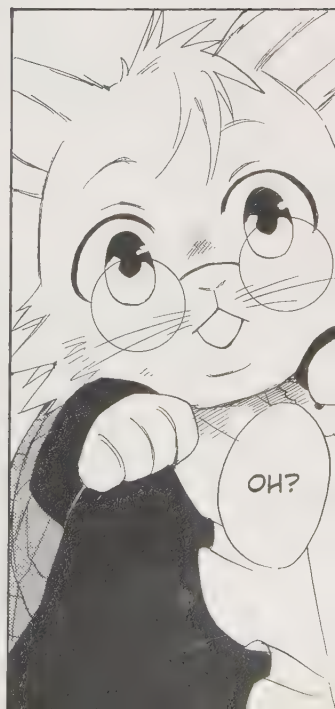
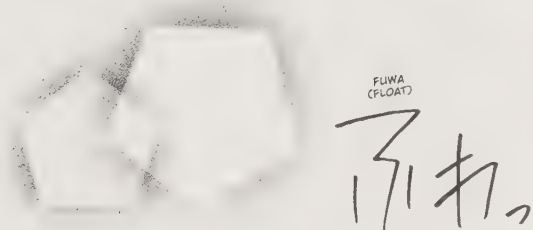
AND YET—



...AND
SO CUTE.

LIKE A
STUFFED
BUNNY.

HE'S SO
SMALL AND
FLUFFY
NOW...





GO
BETTER
...?



IT'S NICE
TO BE
CLOSE...

...RIGHT?

THINGS
WILL GO
BETTER IF
YOU LIVE
WITH ME.

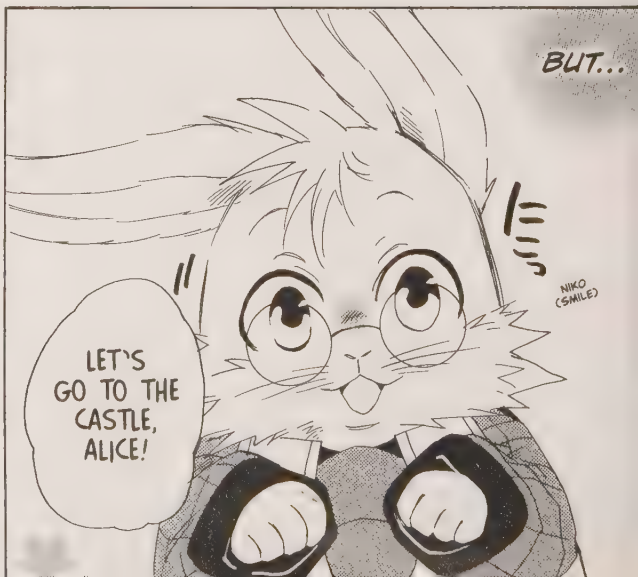
IT'S THE
SAME PETER
IN THAT
LITTLE BODY,
ALL RIGHT.

HE'S SAYING
WEIRD THINGS
AGAIN...



LUZU
(TWITCH)

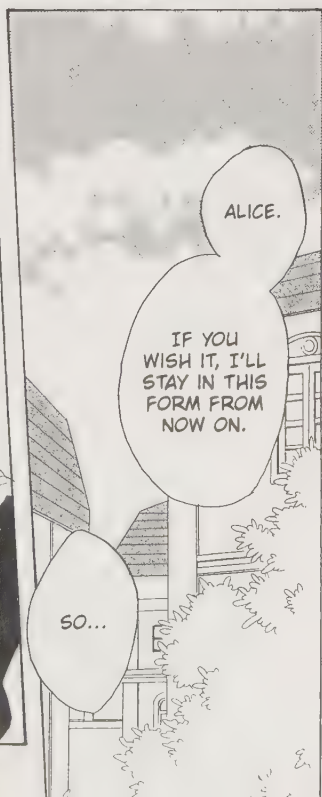
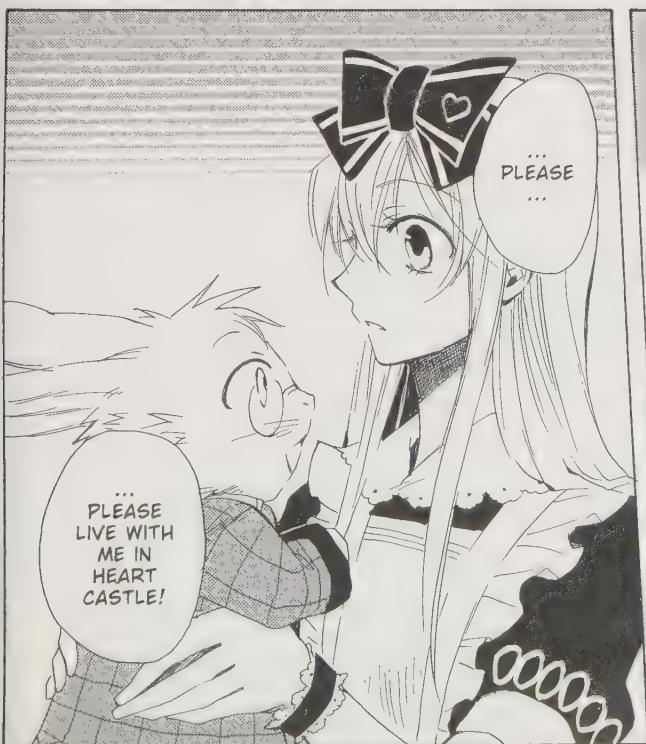
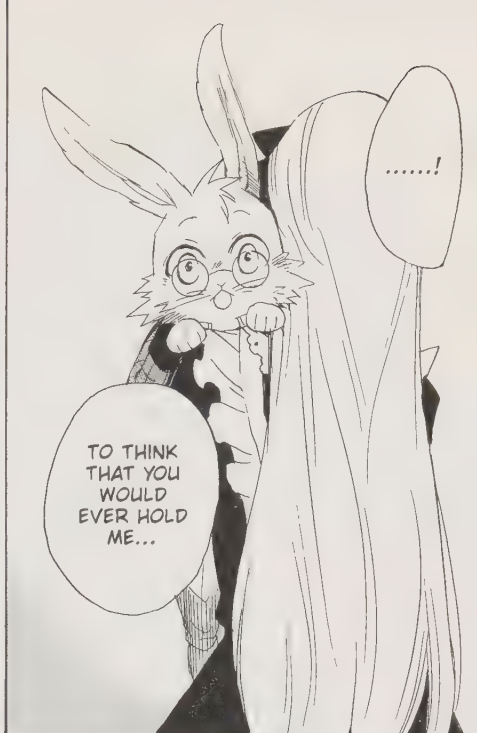
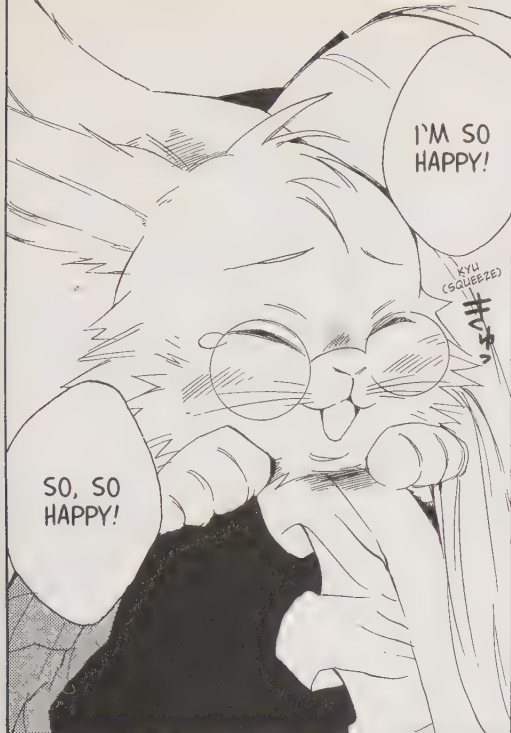
ラズ...

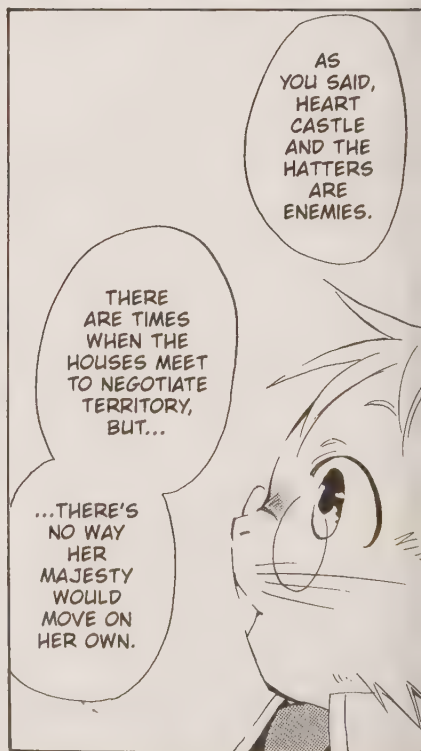
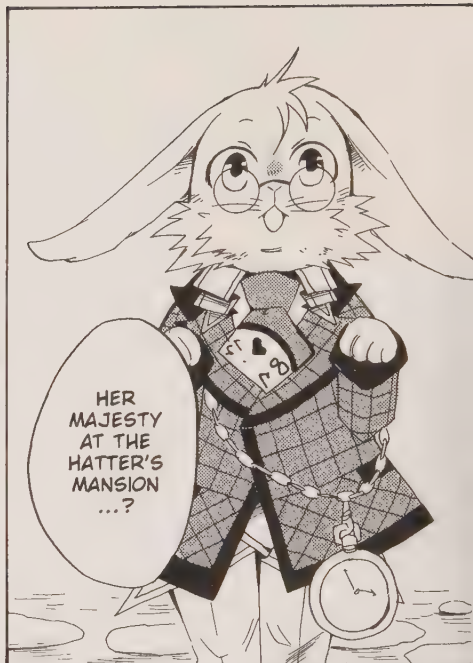
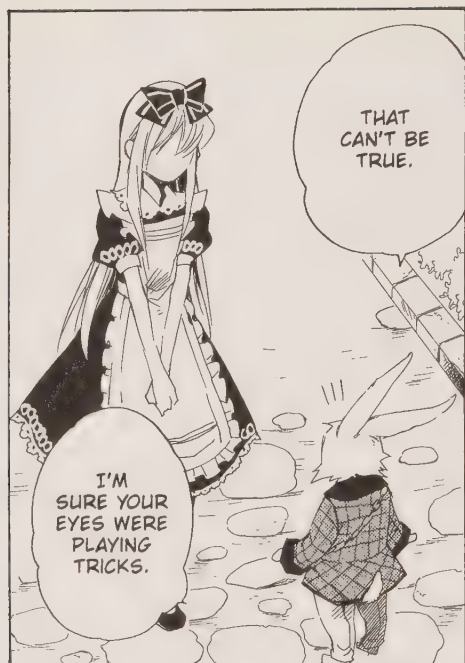


BUT...

NIKO
(SMILE)

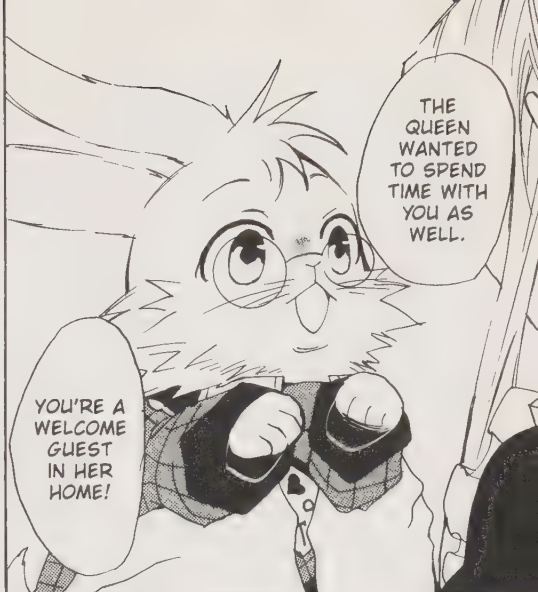
LET'S
GO TO THE
CASTLE,
ALICE!







VIVALDI
...



THE
QUEEN
WANTED
TO SPEND
TIME WITH
YOU AS
WELL.

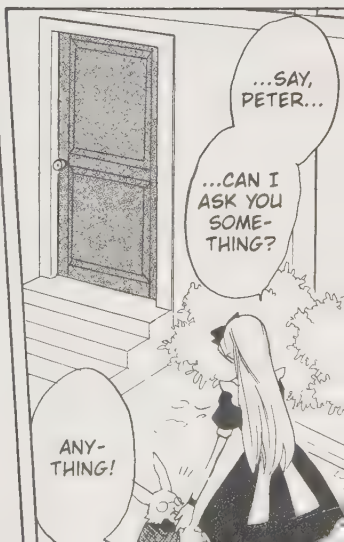
YOU'RE A
WELCOME
GUEST
IN HER
HOME!



IS SHE
FRIENDS
WITH
BLOOD?

I
THOUGHT
THEIR
HOUSES
WERE
ENEMIES.

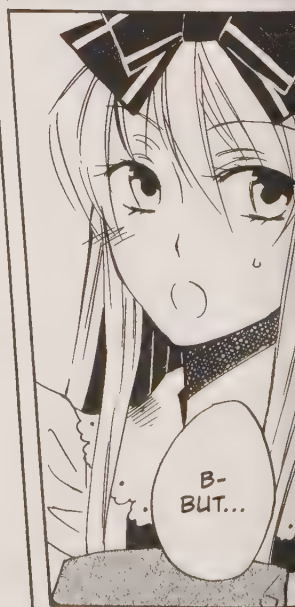
I SAW
VIVALDI
AT THE
HATTER'S
MANSION.



...SAY,
PETER...

...CAN I
ASK YOU
SOME-
THING?

ANY-
THING!

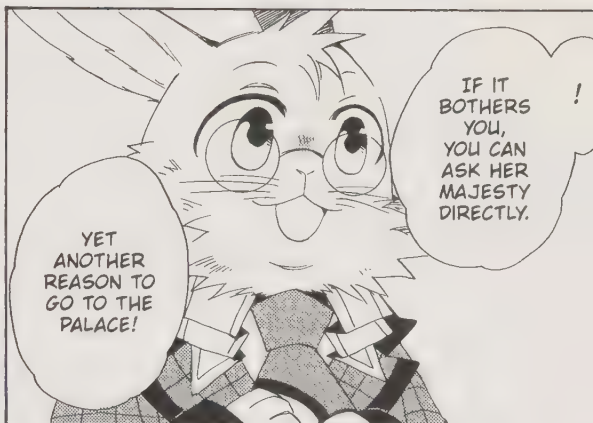




RIGHT...



BUT
I WAS
SO SURE
IT WAS
VIVALDI
...



YET
ANOTHER
REASON TO
GO TO THE
PALACE!

IF IT
BOTHERS
YOU,
YOU CAN
ASK HER
MAJESTY
DIRECTLY.



I'M
HELPING
JULIUS
WITH
A FEW
JOBS.

AND
I HATE
QUITTING
SOMETHING
THAT I'VE
ALREADY
STARTED.



WHY
NOT!?

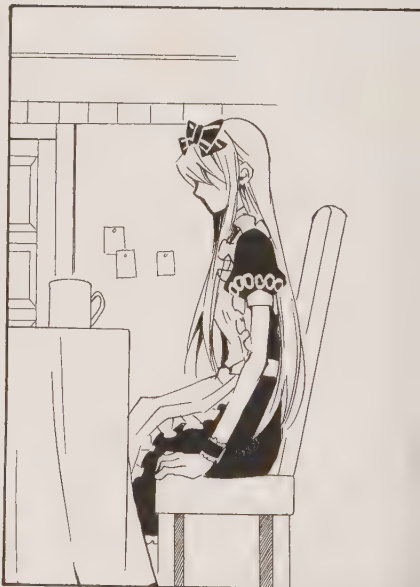


...BUT...
I'M
SORRY,
PETER.

I'M NOT
LEAVING
THE CLOCK
TOWER.

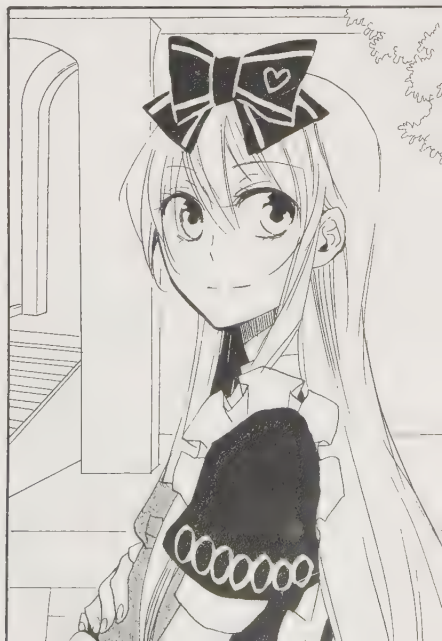
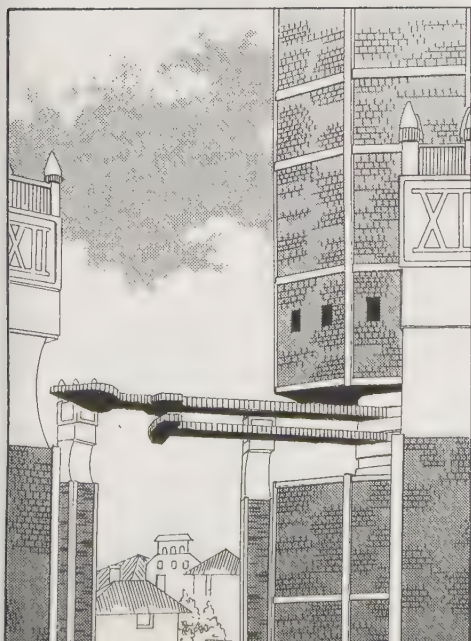


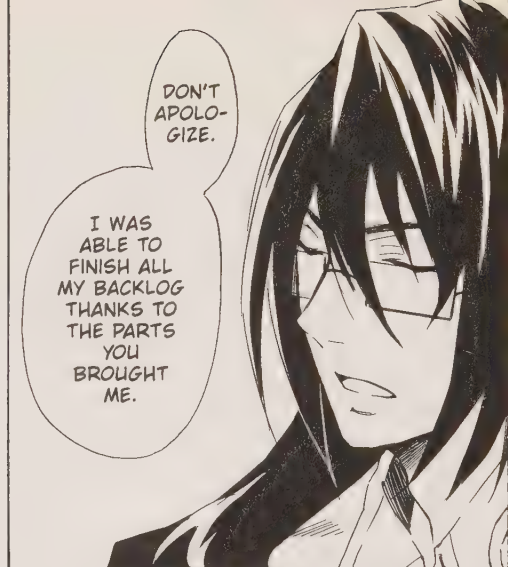
...YOUR EYES
WERE PLAYING
TRICKS.



NO. I
WASN'T
SEEING
THINGS.

I'M
SURE
THAT
WAS
VIVALDI.





DON'T
APOLO-
GIZE.

I WAS
ABLE TO
FINISH ALL
MY BACKLOG
THANKS TO
THE PARTS
YOU
BROUGHT
ME.



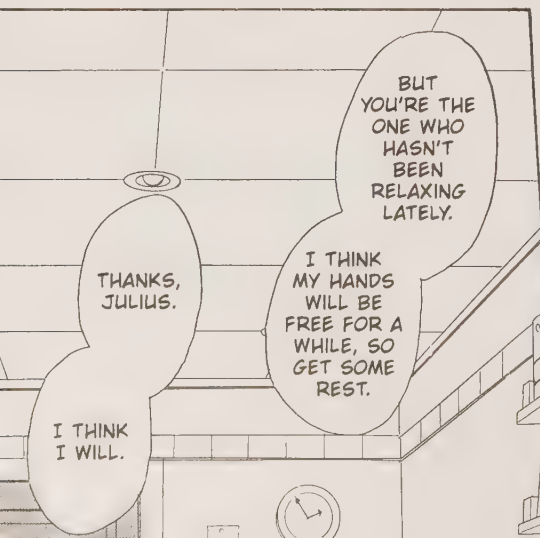
I'M
SORRY,
JULIUS.
REALLY.

I'LL BE
QUICKER
NEXT
TIME.



YOU'RE
THE REASON
I'M TAKING
THIS BREAK
NOW.

I...
APPRECIATE
YOUR HELP.



THANKS,
JULIUS.

I THINK
I WILL.

BUT
YOU'RE THE
ONE WHO
HASN'T
BEEN
RELAXING
LATELY.

I THINK
MY HANDS
WILL BE
FREE FOR A
WHILE, SO
GET SOME
REST.



THAT'S
GOOD...I'M
BEING A
LITTLE
USEFUL,
RIGHT?

HMM...
SOME-
WHAT.

HUH?

I'M
SPEAKING
TO YOU,
ALICE!

— ALICE.

DOES
THAT
MEAN
THE
TWO OF
THEM
ARE—?

VIVALDI
DOESN'T
MOVE ON
HER OWN,
BUT SHE
SNUCK
OUT TO
MEET
BLOOD.

AND THEY
DEFINITELY
LOOKED...
FRIENDLY.

S-
SORRY.
I GOT
LOST IN
THOUGHT.

WERE
YOU SAYING
SOME-
THING?

WHY ARE
YOU SO
DISTRACTED
TODAY?

THERE
WAS A...
CUTE ANIMAL
OUTSIDE. I
COULDN'T
HELP BUT
PICK HIM
UP.

OH...

OH!

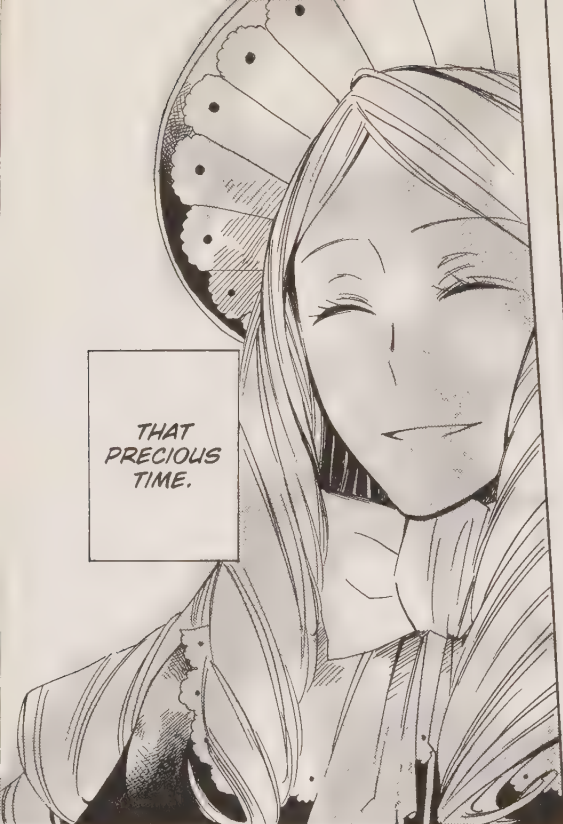
IT'S
TRUE!

SO
YOU WERE
FOOLING
AROUND.

I
WONDERED
WHY SUCH
A SMALL
PURCHASE
TOOK YOU
SO LONG

THIS
MUST BE
PETER'S.

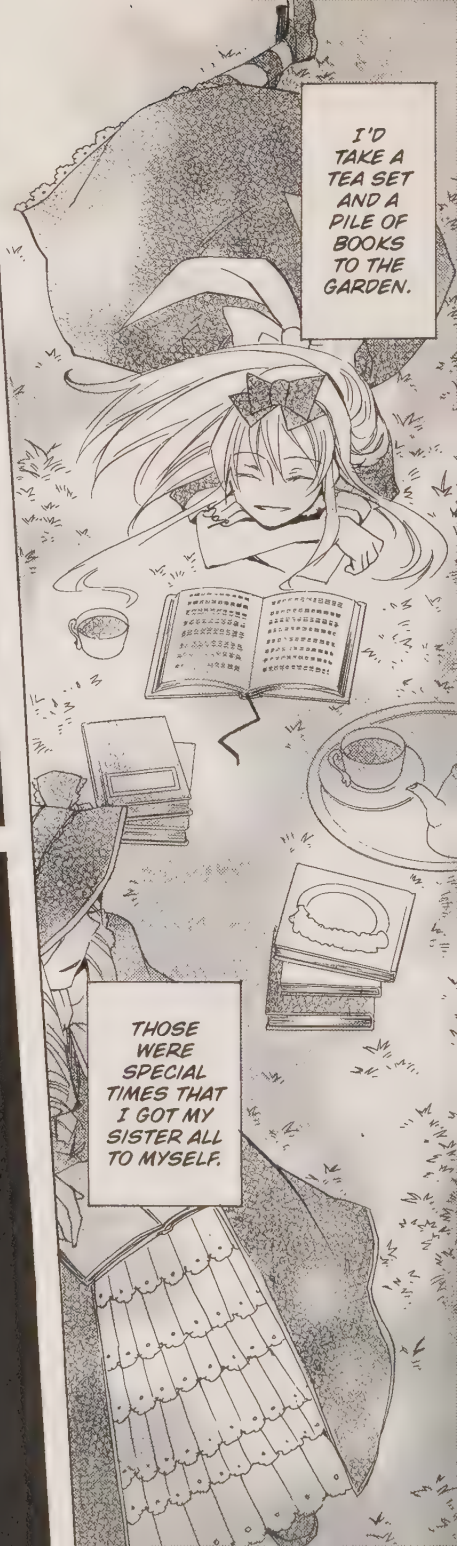
I WAS
TELLING
YOU THAT
YOUR CLOTHES
ARE
COVERED
IN HAIR.



THAT
PRECIOUS
TIME.

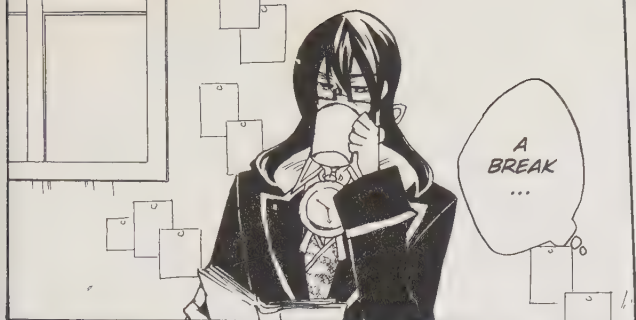
I
HAVEN'T
SEEN
HER
FOR SO
LONG.

I
WONDER
HOW
SHE'S
DOING
—?



I'D
TAKE A
TEA SET
AND A
PILE OF
BOOKS
TO THE
GARDEN.

THOSE
WERE
SPECIAL
TIMES THAT
I GOT MY
SISTER ALL
TO MYSELF.



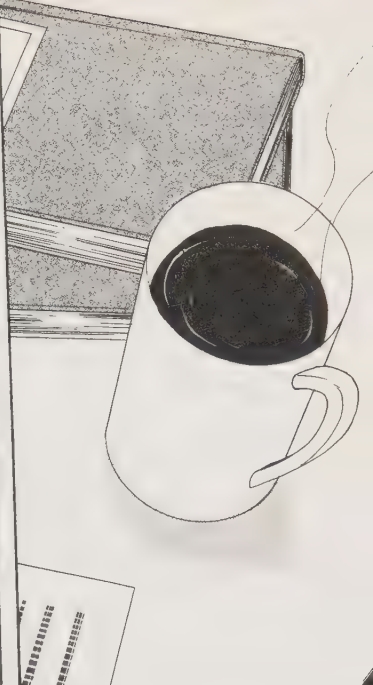
A
BREAK
...



MOST WERE
ABOUT FIXING
CLOCKS, SO
THERE WEREN'T
MANY I COULD
READ
ANYWAY.

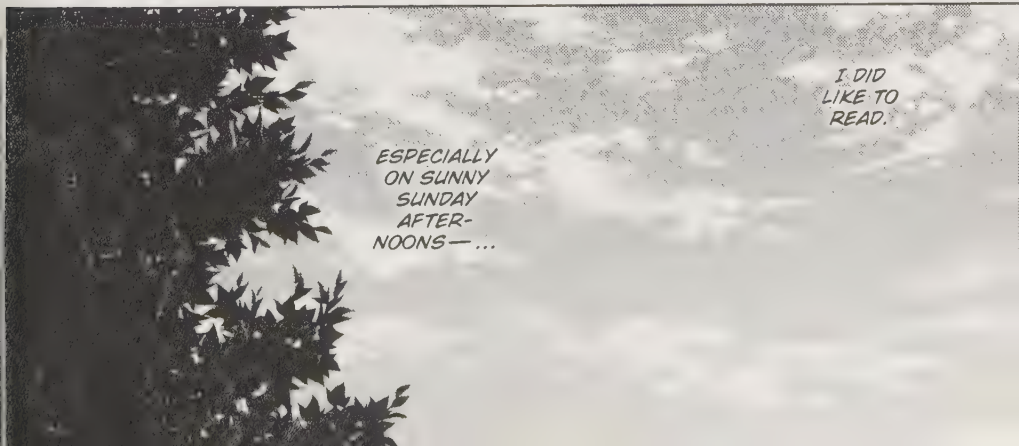
HMM...

WHAT
SHOULD
I DO? I'VE
ALREADY
READ ALL
THE BOOKS
HERE.



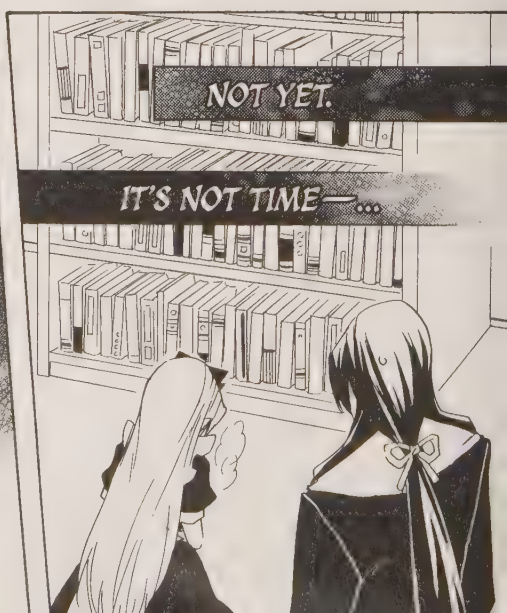
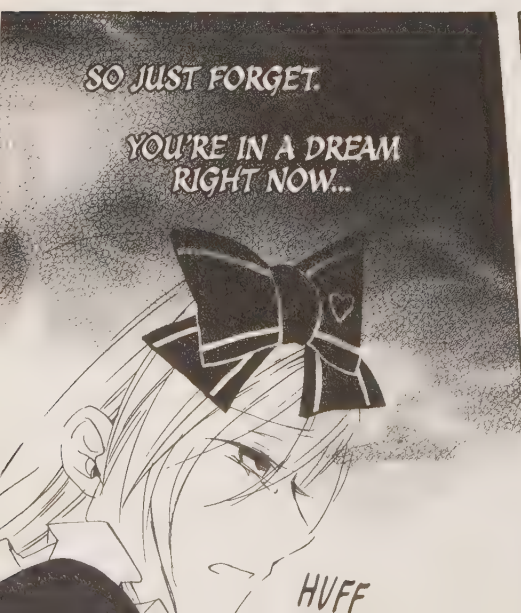
HOW DID I
SPEND MY
DAYS OFF
AT HOME
AGAIN?

I'VE BEEN
RUNNING AROUND
LIKE MAD EVER
SINCE I CAME TO
THIS WORLD...
SO NOW THAT I
HAVE TIME TO
MYSELF, I DON'T
KNOW WHAT TO
DO WITH IT.



ESPECIALLY
ON SUNNY
SUNDAY
AFTER-
NOONS—...

I DID
LIKE TO
READ.





MY
OLDER
SISTER
...?

WAIT
...

HUH?



TH-THIS
TERRIBLE
PAIN
IN MY
CHEST...

ギ
ギ
GYU
(SQUEEZE)

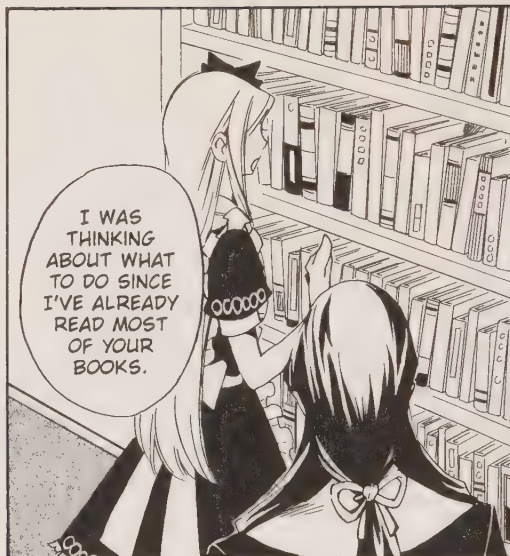


グ
グ
GURA
(WOBBLE)

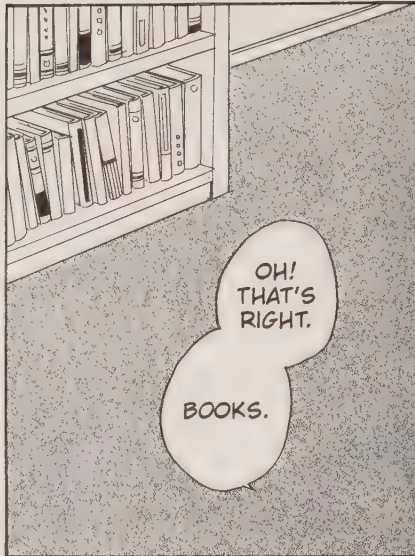
WHA—?



ガ
タ
GATA
(CLATTER)

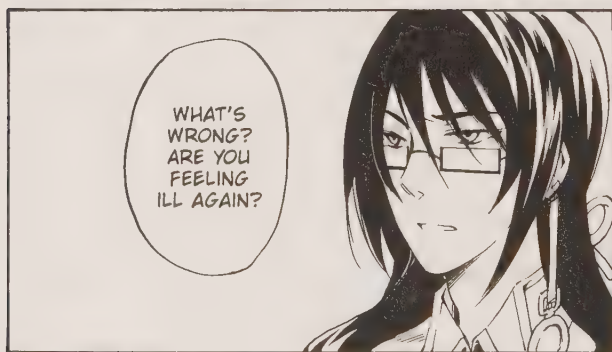


I WAS
THINKING
ABOUT WHAT
TO DO SINCE
I'VE ALREADY
READ MOST
OF YOUR
BOOKS.

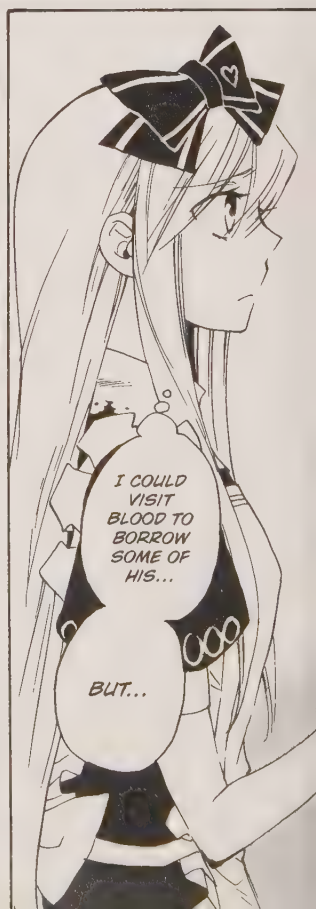


OH!
THAT'S
RIGHT.

BOOKS.



WHAT'S
WRONG?
ARE YOU
FEELING
ILL AGAIN?



OOPS.

I CAN'T
BE-
LIEVE
I SAID
THAT
...

BLOOD
DUPRE
...?



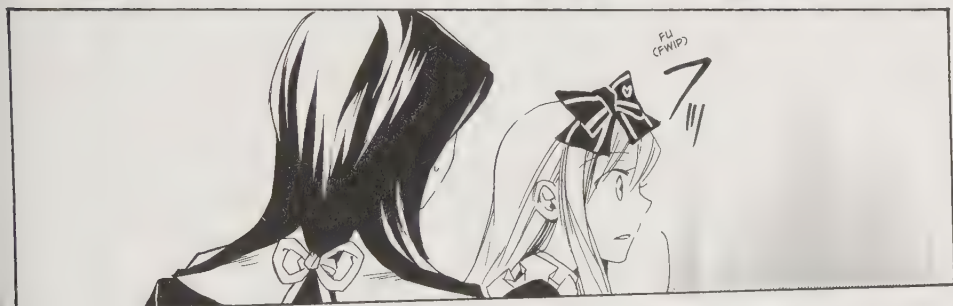
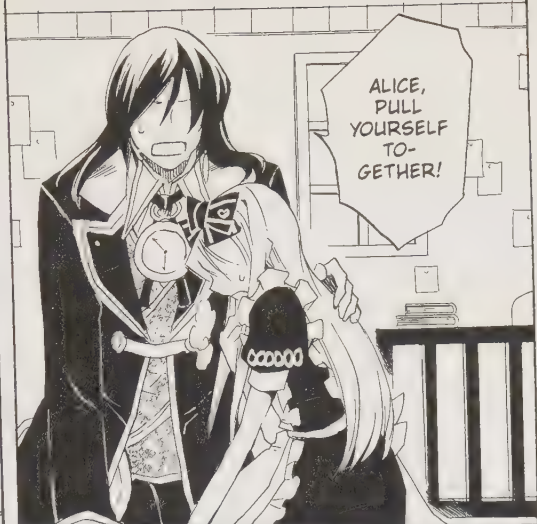
OH!
NO...I'M
FINE.

I'M
NOT SICK,
I JUST...

I WAS
THINKING
ABOUT
BLOOD.

I COULD
VISIT
BLOOD TO
BORROW
SOME OF
HIS...

BUT...







...YOU
PLAY WITH
THOSE
SICKLES?
AND
GUNS!?

YOU
CAN'T
MEAN
...

P-
PLAY?

WE
GOTTA
HAVE
WEAPONS
TO PLAY
"KILL OR
DIE"!

NIKO
(SMILE)

SURE!

UM,
I DID—
I VISITED
HIS ROOM
A LITTLE
WHILE
AGO.

WHILE
I WAS
TREATING
HIS
INJURIES.

HUH? NO
FAIR! WHY'D
YOU ONLY
PLAY WITH
BORIS!?

BORIS?

YOU
WENT OVER
TO BORIS'S
PLACE?

AND
YOU'RE
JUST
LITTLE
BOYS...

HA
HA
HA...

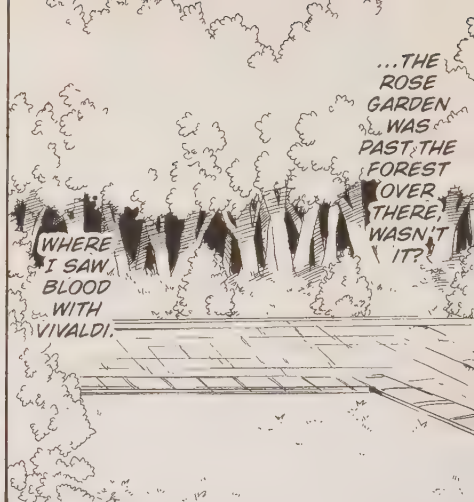
I SEE
YOU TWO
PLAY THE
SAME
GAMES AS
BORIS.



DO YOU
EVER GO
IN THAT
FOREST?

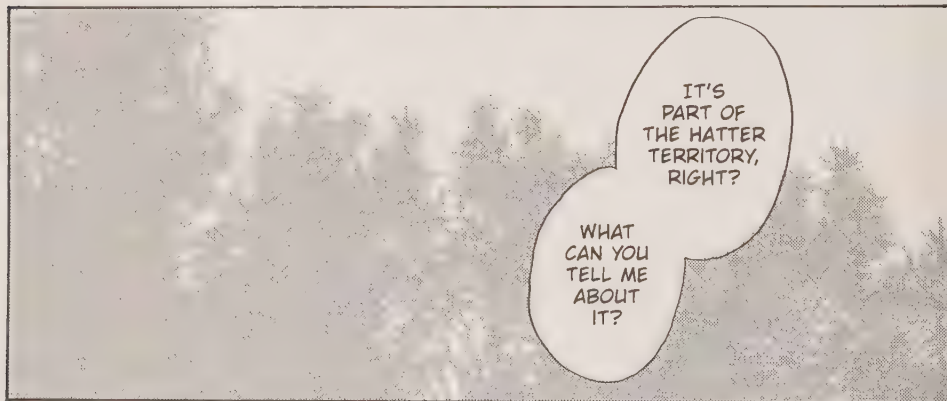
DEE?

DUM?



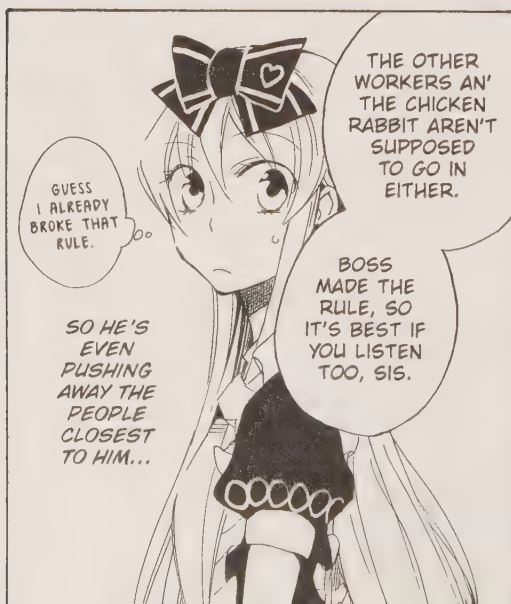
WHERE
I SAW
BLOOD
WITH
VIVALDI.

...THE
ROSE
GARDEN
WAS
PAST THE
FOREST
OVER
THERE,
WASN'T
IT?



IT'S
PART OF
THE HATTER
TERRITORY,
RIGHT?

WHAT
CAN YOU
TELL ME
ABOUT
IT?



GUESS
I ALREADY
BROKE THAT
RULE.

SO HE'S
EVEN
PUSHING
AWAY THE
PEOPLE
CLOSEST
TO HIM...

THE OTHER
WORKERS AN'
THE CHICKEN
RABBIT AREN'T
SUPPOSED
TO GO IN
EITHER.

BOSS
MADE THE
RULE, SO
IT'S BEST IF
YOU LISTEN
TOO, SIS.



HUUUH...
THAT
FOREST?

BOSS
TOLD US
NOT TO GO
IN, SO WE'VE
NEVER GONE
THERE.

...BUT
WE REALLY
DON'T WANNA
GET A PAY
CUT, SO WE
STAY OUT.

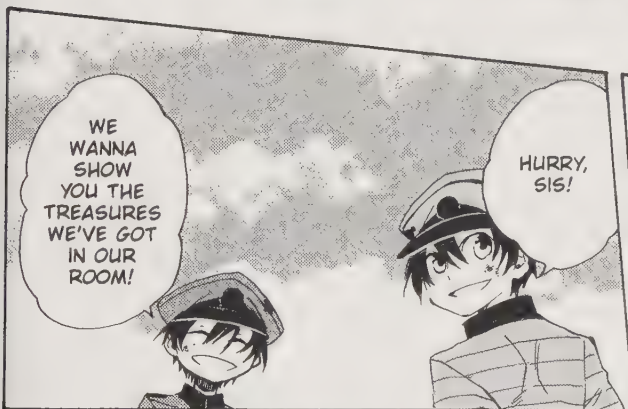
WE
WANNA
GO 'COS IT
MIGHT BE
FUN...



I SHOULD
STILL
HAVE
SOME
TIME.

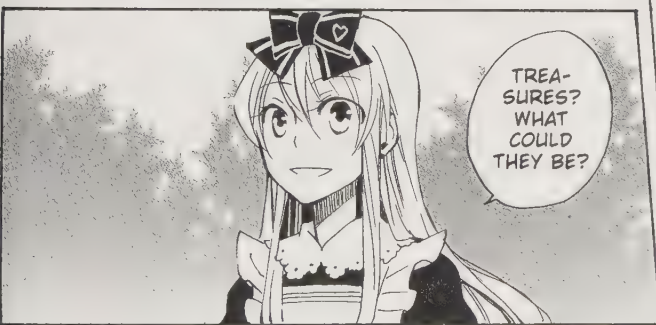
WELL...
OKAY.

THANKS
FOR THE
OFFER.

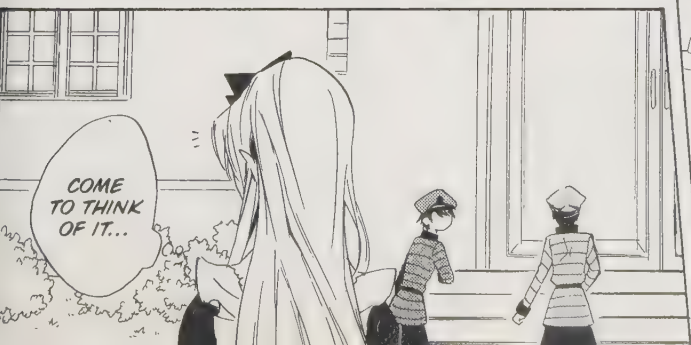


WE
WANNA
SHOW
YOU THE
TREASURES
WE'VE GOT
IN OUR
ROOM!

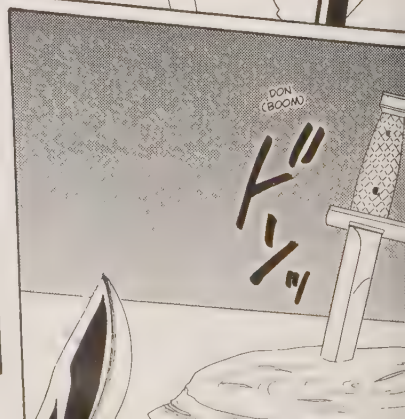
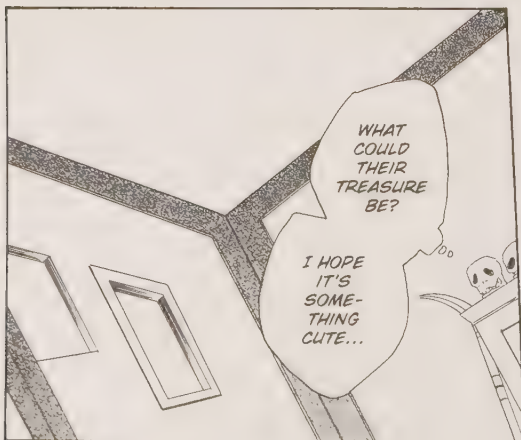
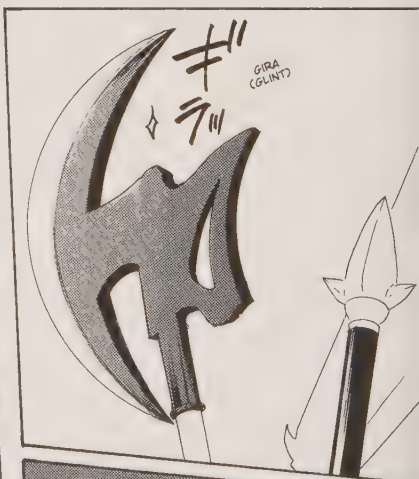
HURRY,
SIS!

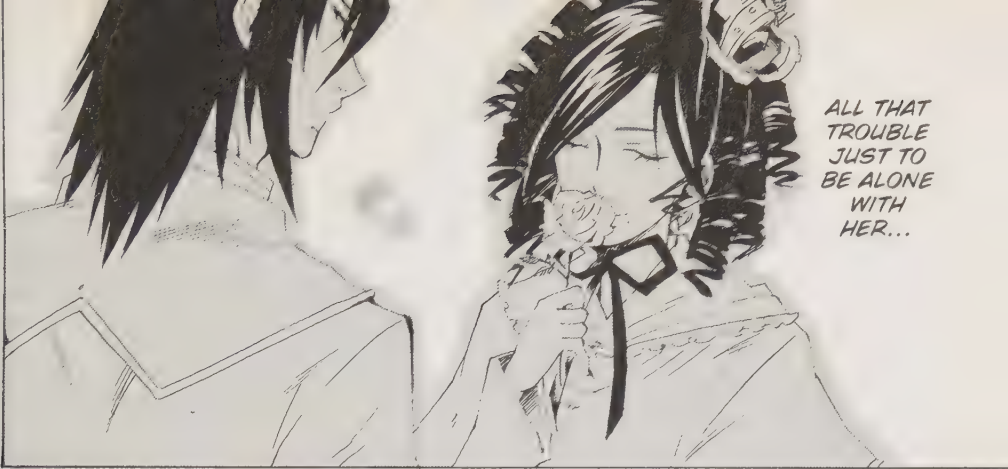


TREA-
SURES?
WHAT
COULD
THEY BE?

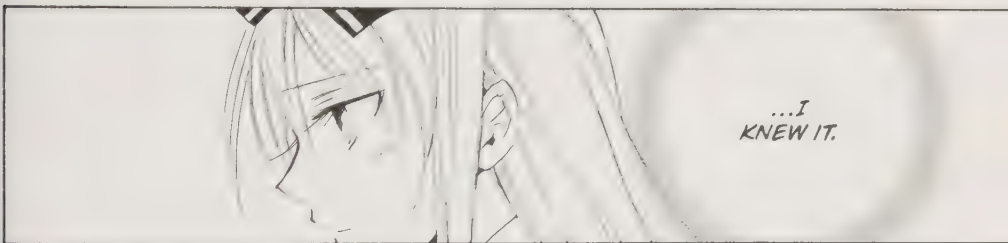


COME
TO THINK
OF IT...





ALL THAT
TROUBLE
JUST TO
BE ALONE
WITH
HER...

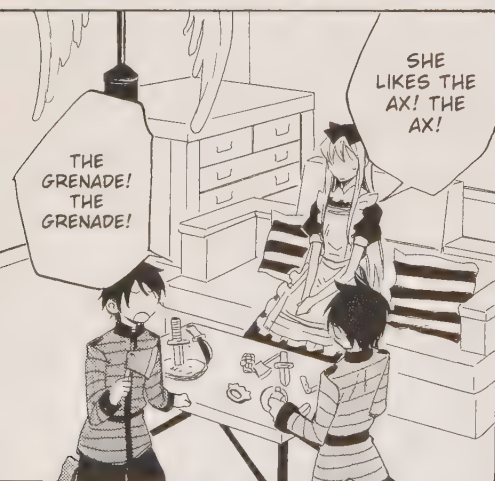
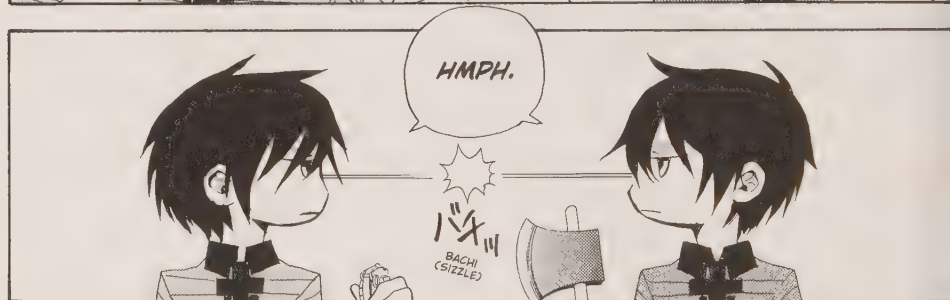


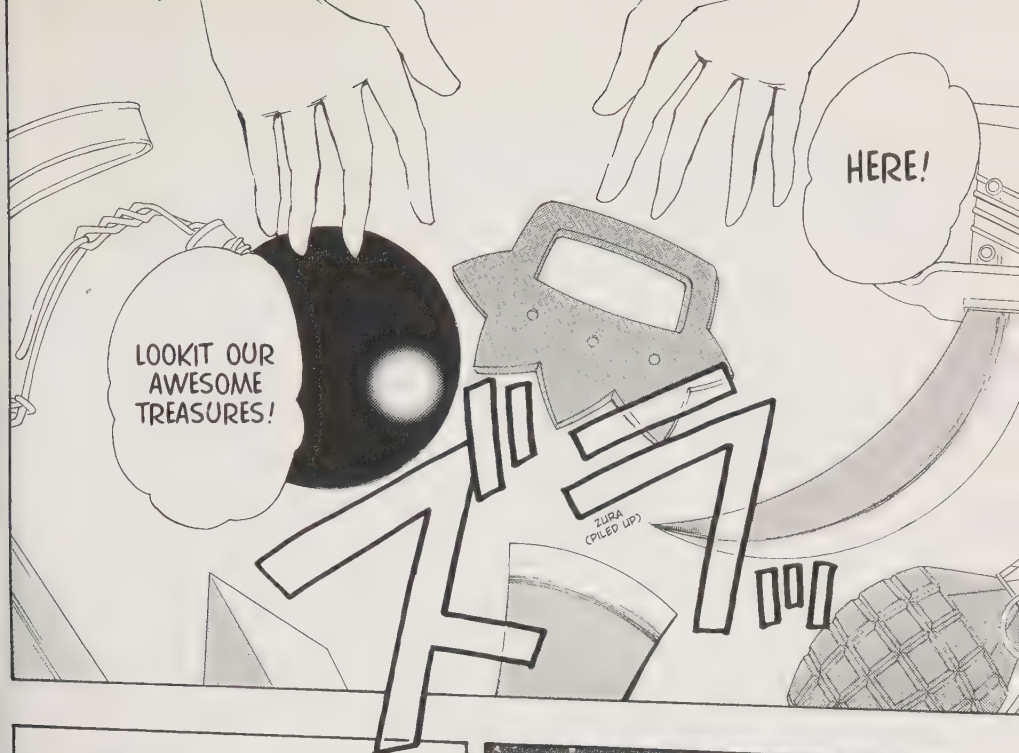
...I
KNEW IT.



LOOKIT
ALL OUR
COOL
STUFF!

TA-
DAA!!





LOOKIT OUR
AWESOME
TREASURES!

HERE!

ZURA
(PILED UP)



AN'
THIS HAND
GRENADE
FITS IN
YOUR
FINGERS
REALLY
NICE!

LOOK,
SIS!

ISN'T
THIS AX
REALLY
COOL?!



THESE
ARE
NOT...

...CUTE
AT ALL.



GOOD
IDEA,
BROTHER!

LET'S
TOTALLY
SHOW
HER.



HEY,
BROTHER!

WE SHOULD
SHOW OUR
BELOVED
BIG SIS OUR
SPECIAL
TREASURE.



SPECIAL
TREASURE
....?

HMM?



LOOKIT
THIS
EDGE...

IT'S
SOOOO
COOL.
AND
SHINY!

YEAH!

WE
JUST
GOT
IT.

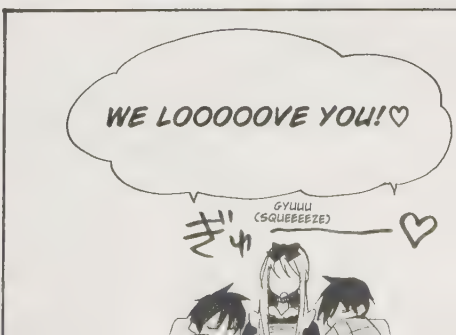
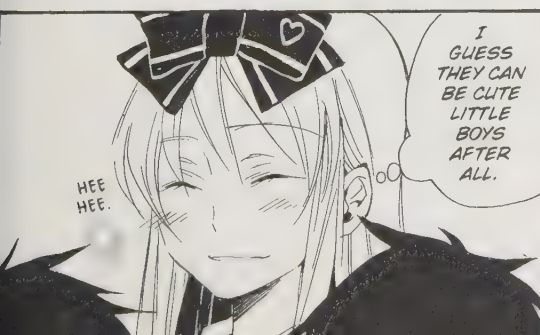
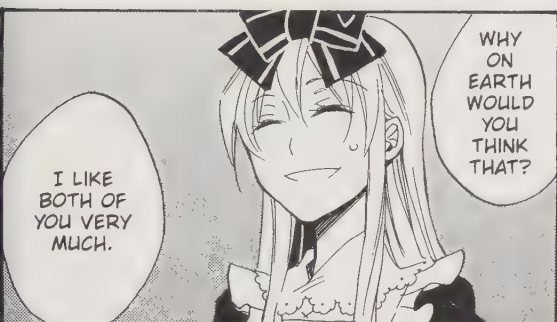
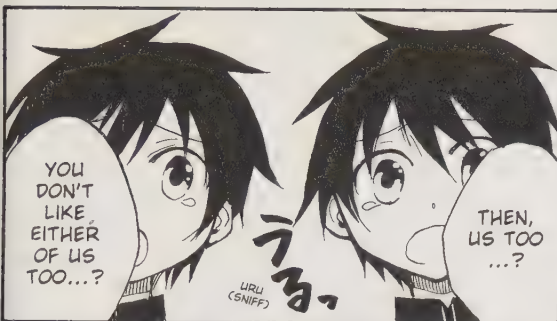


I REALLY
CAN'T
UNDER-
STAND
THEIR
TASTE.

HA
HA...
HUH.

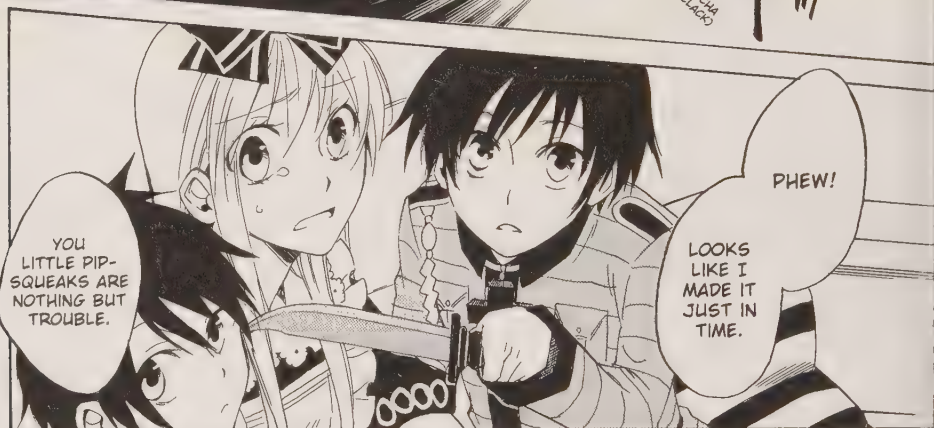


TH-THIS
IS YOUR
SPECIAL
TREA-
SURE?



ガチヤ

GACHA
GACHO



YOU
LITTLE PIP-
SQUEAKS ARE
NOTHING BUT
TROUBLE.

PHEW!

LOOKS
LIKE I
MADE IT
JUST IN
TIME.

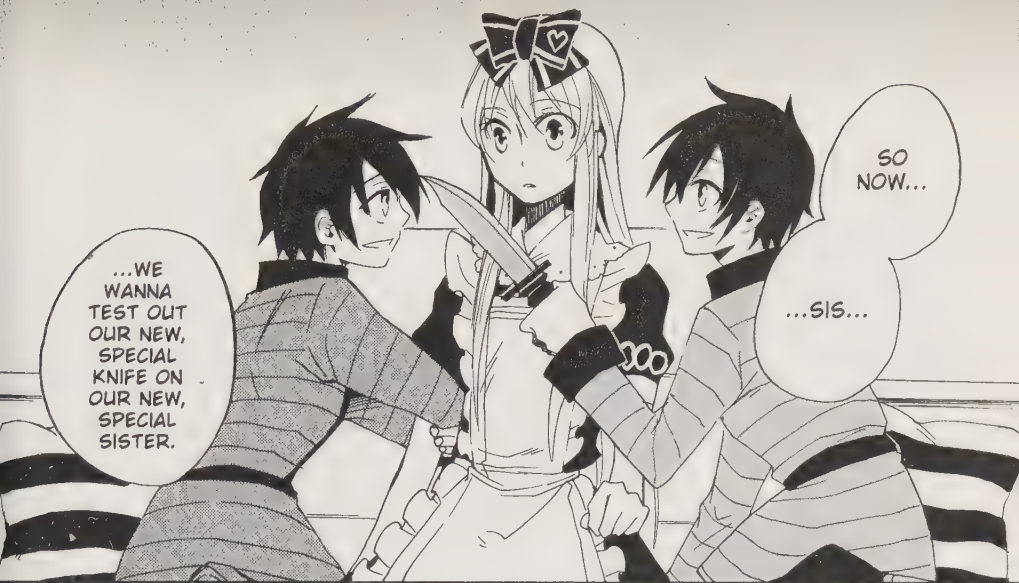
oooo



I NEARLY
LOST IT WHEN
I HEARD THE
GATEKEEPERS
TOOK YOU TO
THEIR ROOM.

ELLIOT
...!

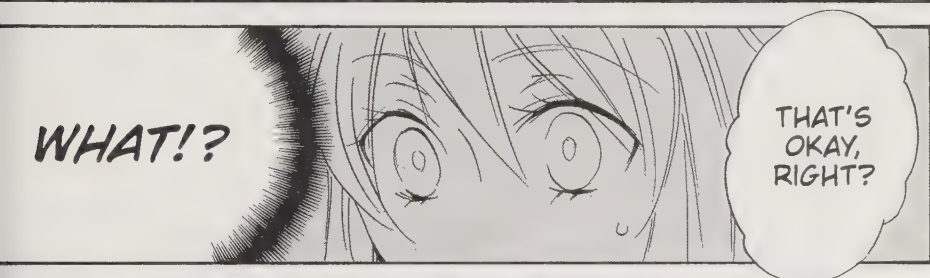
I'M
GLAD
YOU'RE
OKAY.



...WE
WANNA
TEST OUT
OUR NEW,
SPECIAL
KNIFE ON
OUR NEW,
SPECIAL
SISTER.

SO
NOW...

...SIS...



WHAT!?

THAT'S
OKAY,
RIGHT?



THEY'VE
GOT
TO BE
KIDDING!



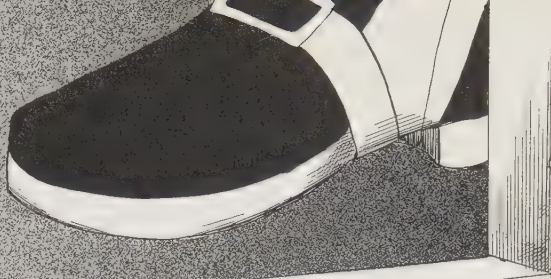
WAIT!

NO!

か
う、

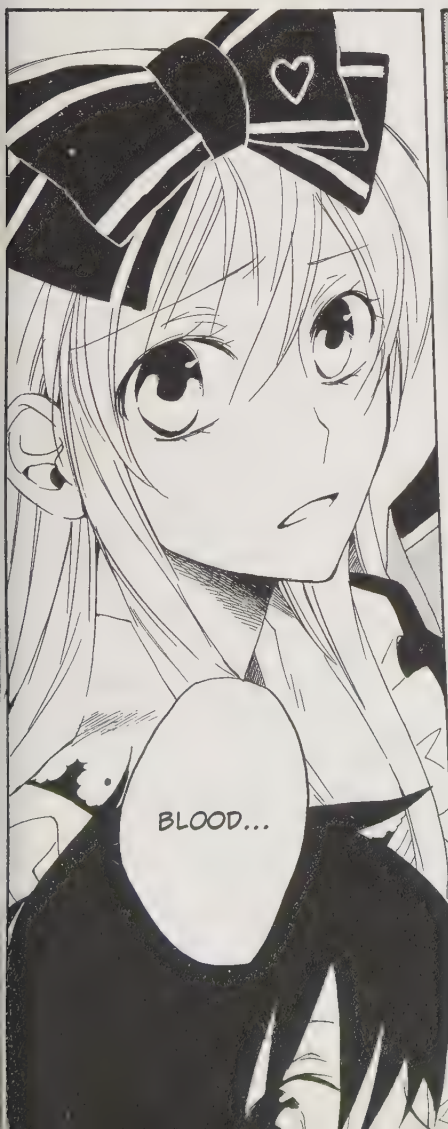
GASH!
(GRIP)



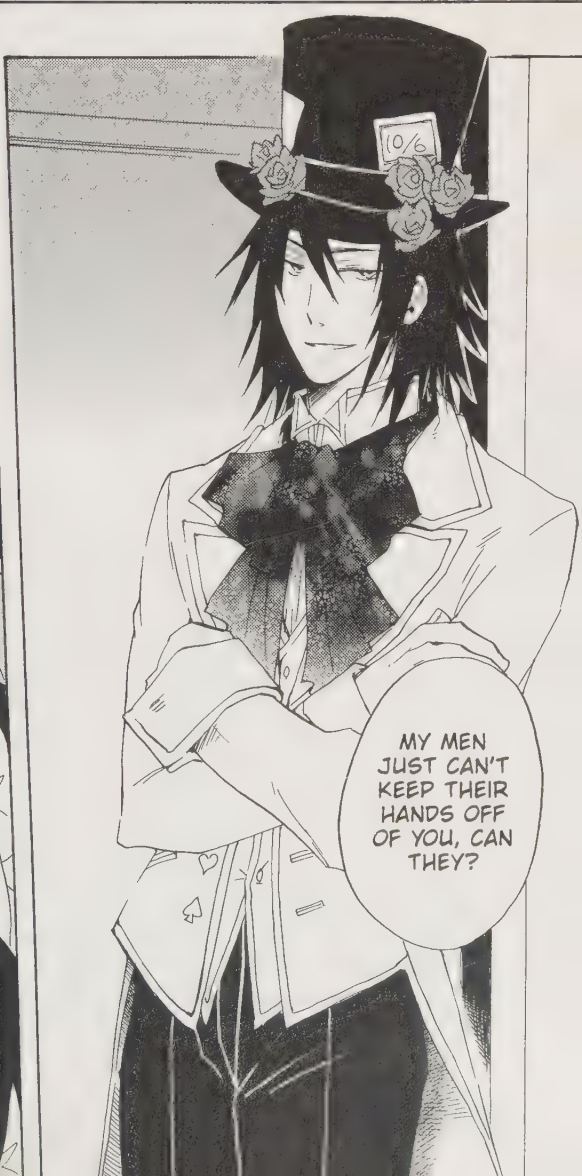


TSK,
TSK...

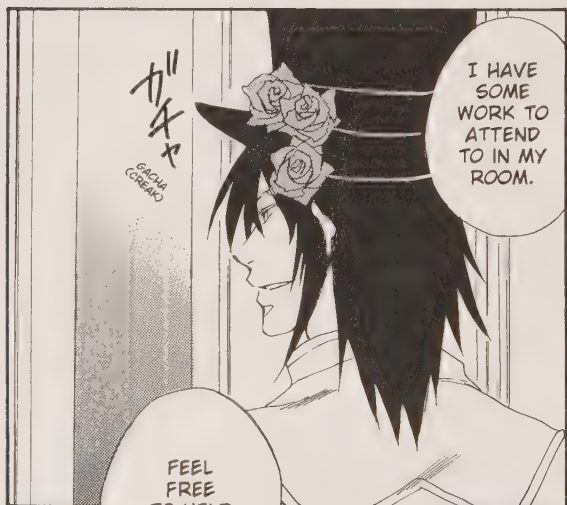
I DON'T
KNOW
WHAT TO
DO WITH
YOU GATE-
KEEPERS.



BLOOD...



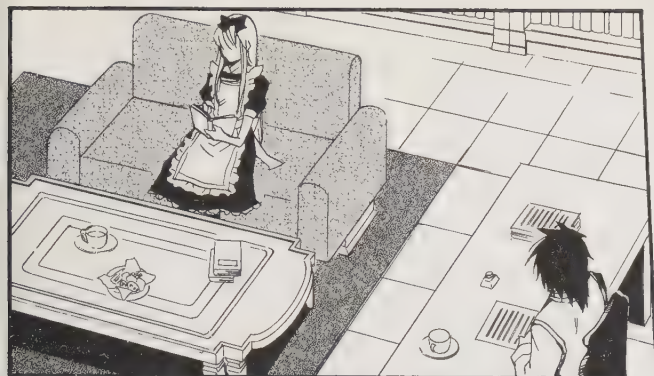
MY MEN
JUST CAN'T
KEEP THEIR
HANDS OFF
OF YOU, CAN
THEY?

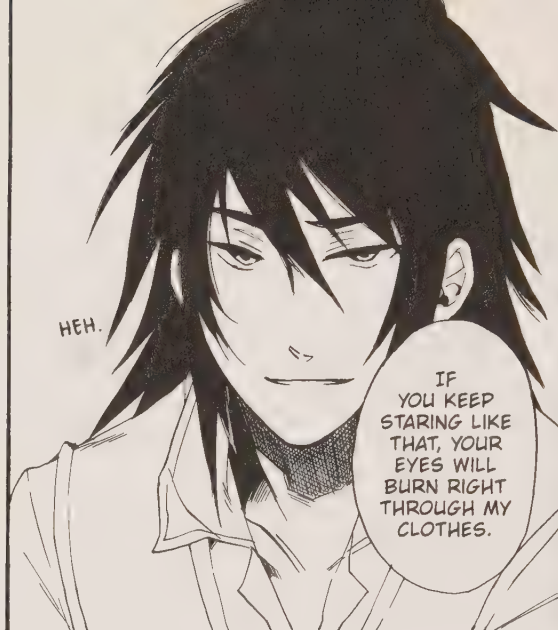


♥14-Disjointing Flower



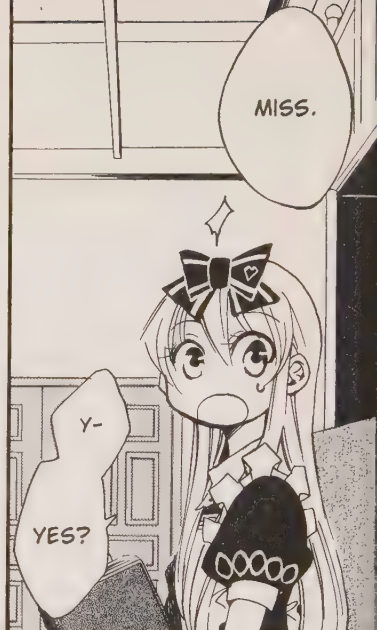






HEH..

IF
YOU KEEP
STARING LIKE
THAT, YOUR
EYES WILL
BURN RIGHT
THROUGH MY
CLOTHES.



MISS.

Y-

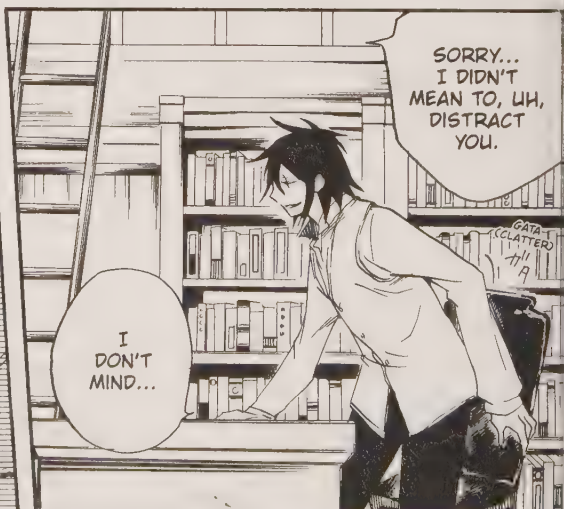
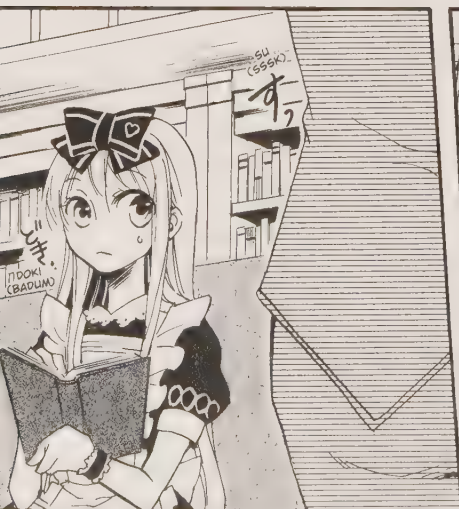
YES?



W-WAS I
STARING!?

WHAT!?
NO, I...

YES.



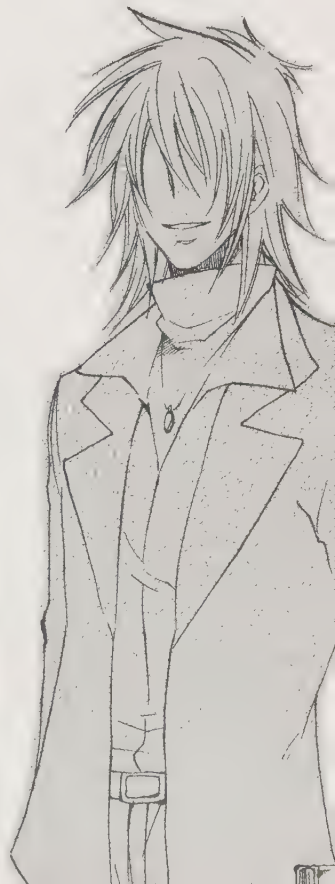
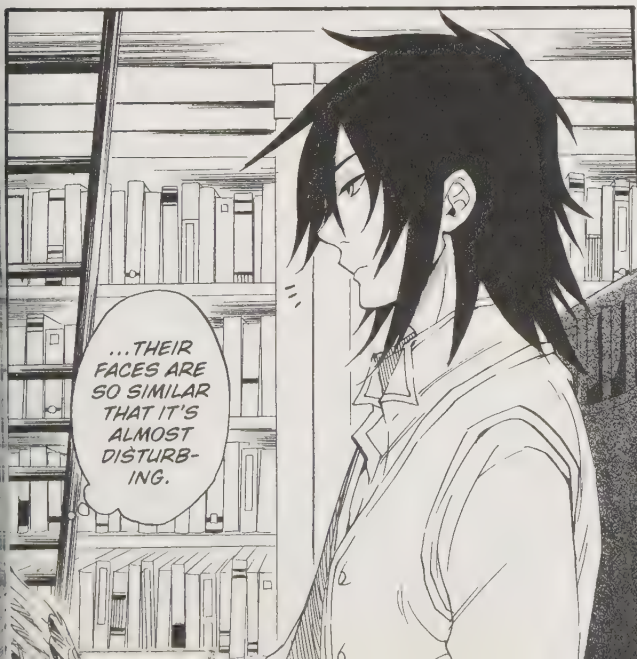
SORRY...
I DIDN'T
MEAN TO, UH,
DISTRACT
YOU.

I
DON'T
MIND...

IN THAT WAY,
BLOOD'S NOT
LIKE HIM AT
ALL — ...



HE WAS
A LOT
KINDER.
HE DIDN'T
INTIMIDATE
ME THE
WAY BLOOD
DOES.







YOU
WERE
THINKING
ABOUT A
PAST LOVE,
WEREN'T
YOU?



Y-YOU
SHOULD
PROBABLY
GET BACK
TO WORK.

I'M
BORED
OF IT.

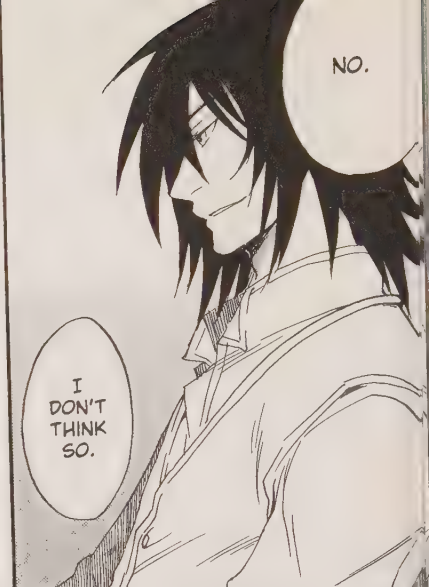
YOU
HAVE MY
INTEREST
NOW.



WHA
...!?



RIGHT
ON THE
MARK,
HMM?



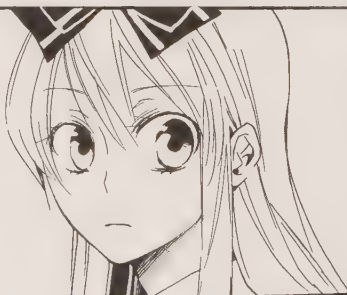
IT
SEEMS THAT
THE ONES
WITH DUTIES
LIKE ME CAN
RECOGNIZE
AN OUTSIDER
JUST BY
MEETING
HER...

BUT
THAT'S
ONLY A
THEORY.

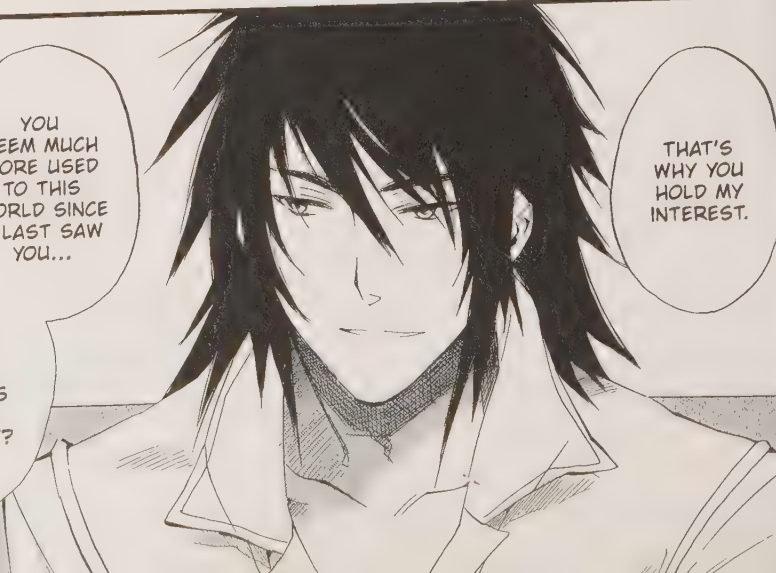
AN
OUTSIDER
IS VERY
RARE.

NO.

I
DON'T
THINK
SO.



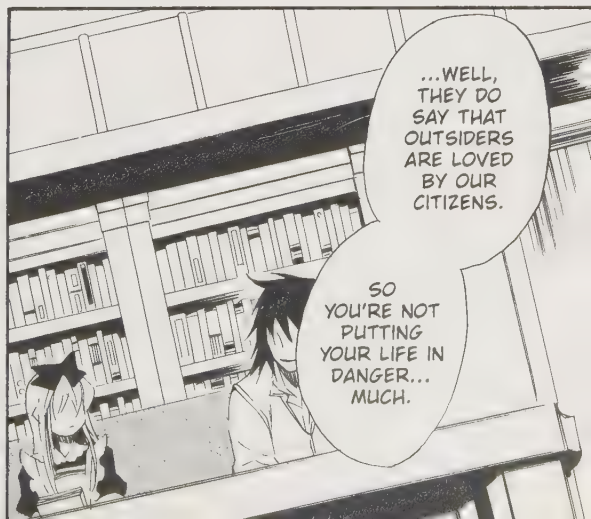
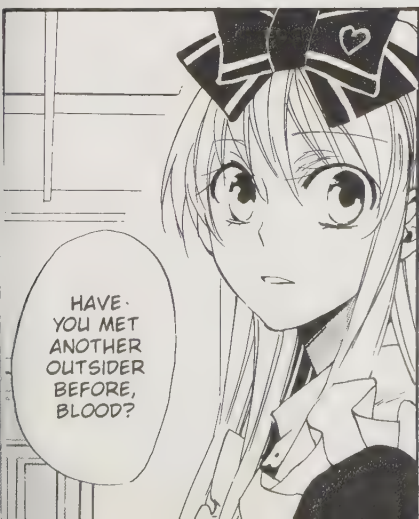
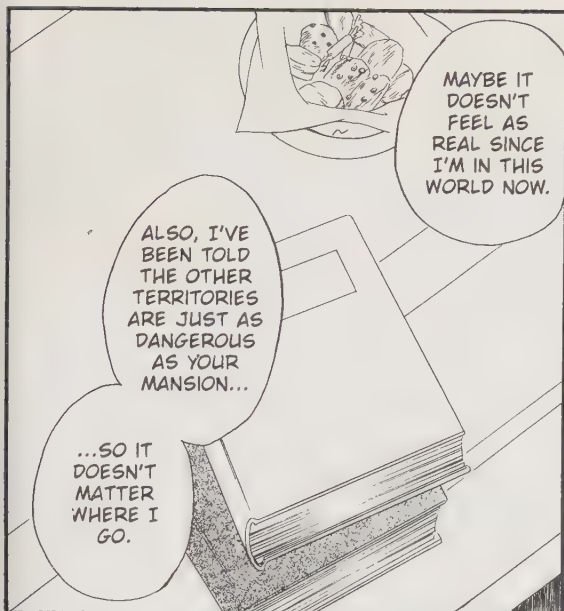
YOU'RE
THE FIRST
OUTSIDER
I'VE FELT.



YOU
SEEM MUCH
MORE USED
TO THIS
WORLD SINCE
I LAST SAW
YOU...

HOW
HAVE
THINGS
BEEN
LATELY?

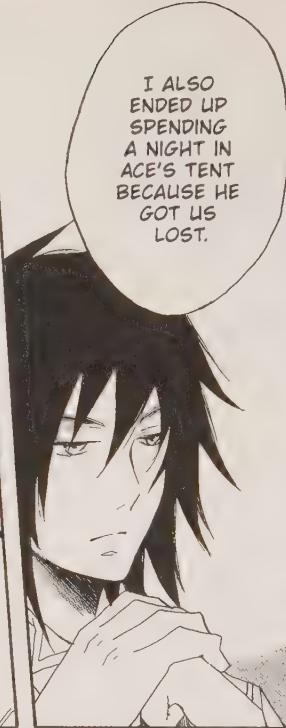
THAT'S
WHY YOU
HOLD MY
INTEREST.





THIS
COUNTRY
IS FULL OF
STRANGE
PEOPLE.

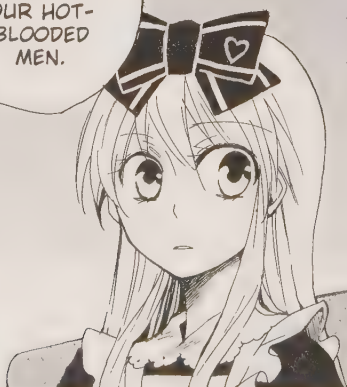
IT'S A
BIT OF A
PAIN—



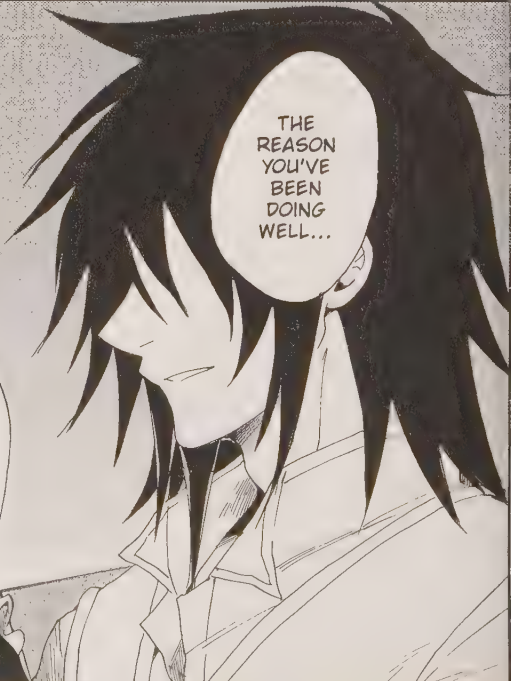
I ALSO
ENDED UP
SPENDING
A NIGHT IN
ACE'S TENT
BECAUSE HE
GOT US
LOST.



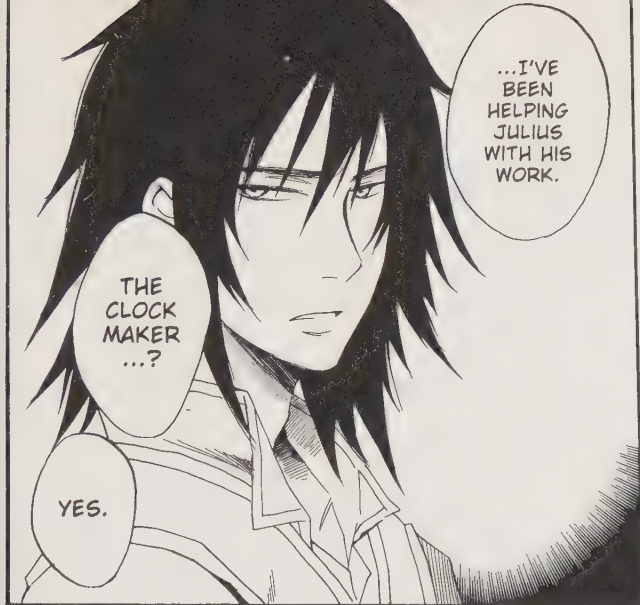
I
GET
IT.



...IS
BECAUSE
YOU'VE
STOKED THE
FIRES IN
OUR HOT-
BLOODED
MEN.



THE
REASON
YOU'VE
BEEN
DOING
WELL...



...I'VE
BEEN
HELPING
JULIUS
WITH HIS
WORK.

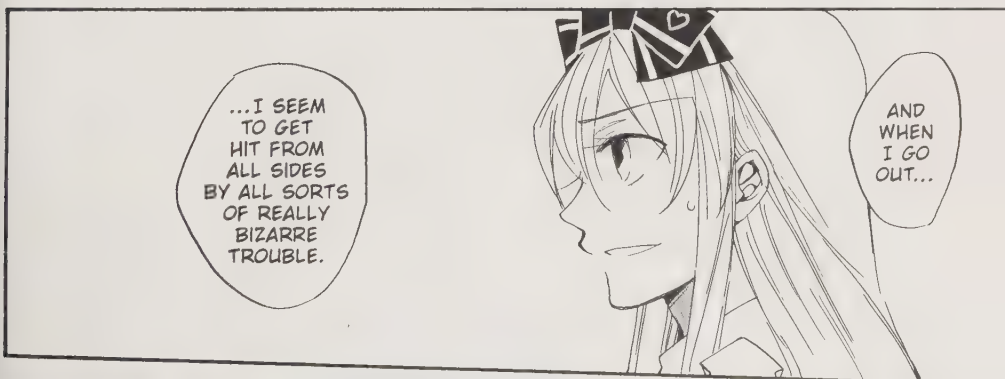
THE
CLOCK
MAKER
...?

YES.



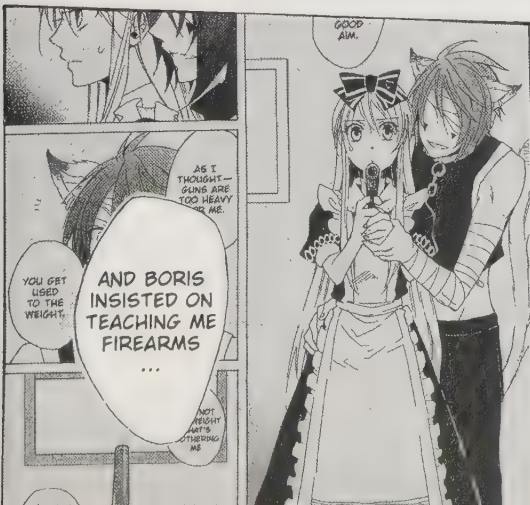
LATELY?

WELL...



...I SEEM
TO GET
HIT FROM
ALL SIDES
BY ALL SORTS
OF REALLY
BIZARRE
TROUBLE.

AND
WHEN
I GO
OUT...



GOOD
AIM.

AS I
THOUGHT—
GUNS ARE
TOO HEAVY
FOR ME.

YOU GET
USED
TO THE
WEIGHT.

AND BORIS
INSISTED ON
TEACHING ME
FIREARMS
...

NOT
RIGHT
WEIGHTS
STRIPPING
ME



PETER
KEEPS
STALKING
ME.

A
A
A
L
I
C
E
!



...YOU
WERE THE
ONE WHO
SEDUCED
YOUR OLD
LOVER.

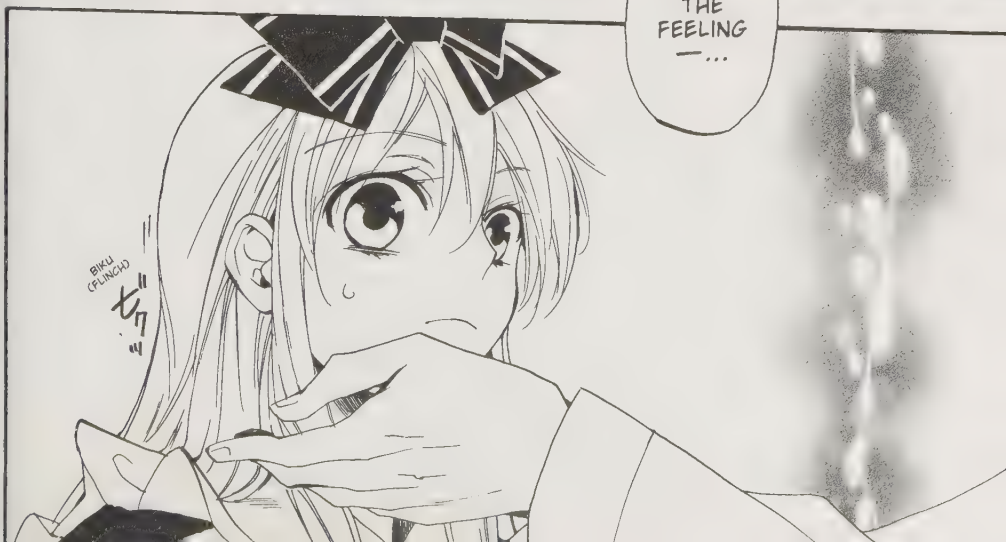
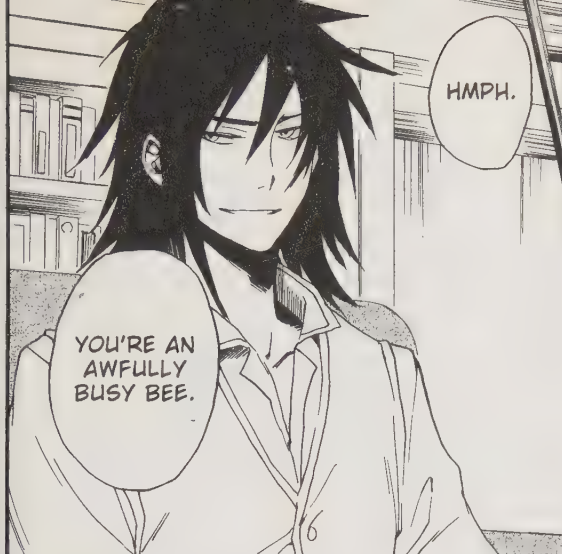


TEMPTING
ALL THE
MEN...

...WHAT A
NAUGHTY
GIRL.



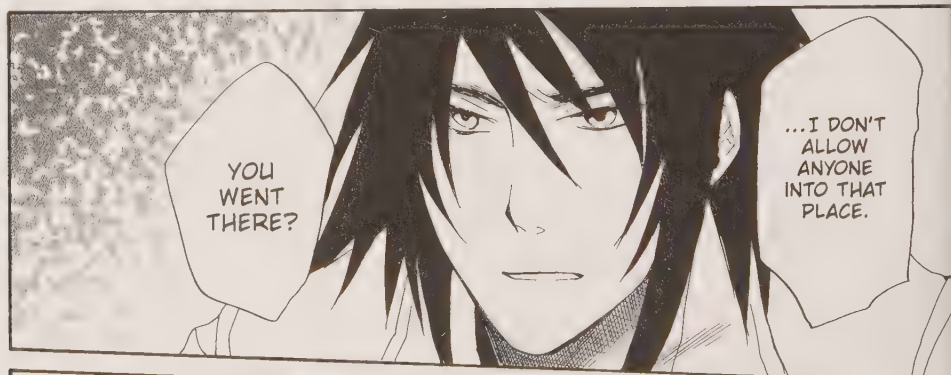
WHA...?





I SAW
YOU!

YOU WERE
ALONE WITH
VIVALDI IN
YOUR ROSE
GARDEN!

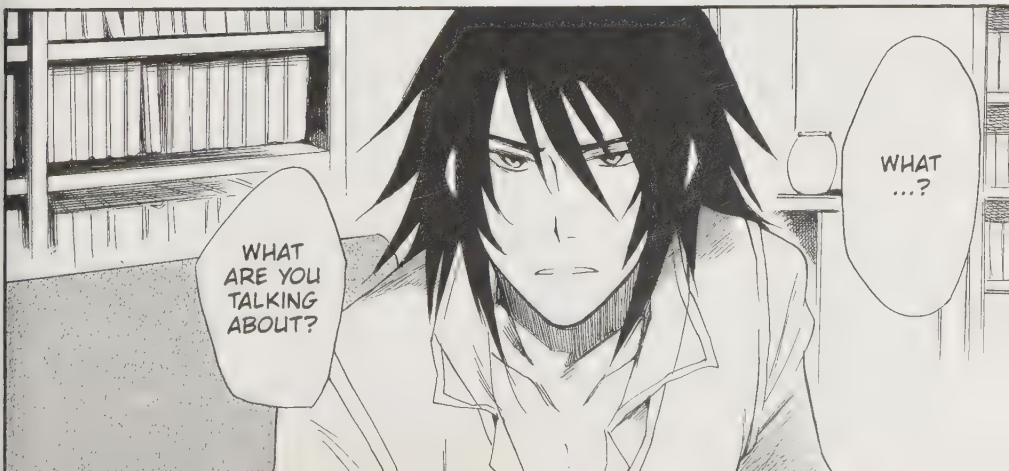
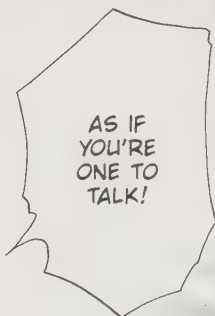
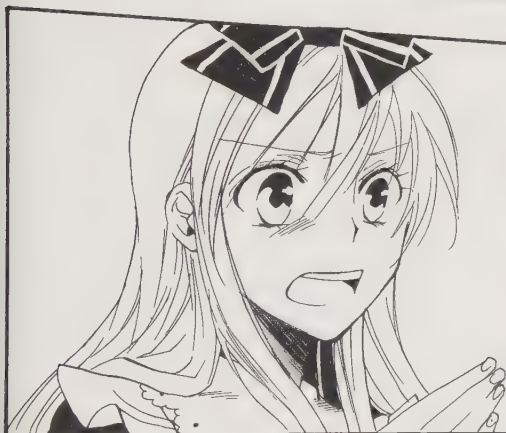


YOU
WENT
THERE?

...I DON'T
ALLOW
ANYONE
INTO THAT
PLACE.



HOW COULD
YOU EXPECT
ME TO KNOW
YOUR RULES
WHEN I'M AN
OUTSIDER?





I'VE
ALWAYS
FANTA-
SIZED...

...ABOUT
KILLING AN
OUTSIDER
WITH MY
BARE
HANDS...



GUGU
(SQUEEZE)

HGCK...



— IS
THAT
SO.

BUT
STILL...

GATA
(GLATIER)

...YOU SAW
SOMETHING
YOU
SHOULDN'T
HAVE.

NOW I
NEED TO
PUNISH
YOU FOR
BREAKING
THE RULE.

!?

GA
(GRAB)

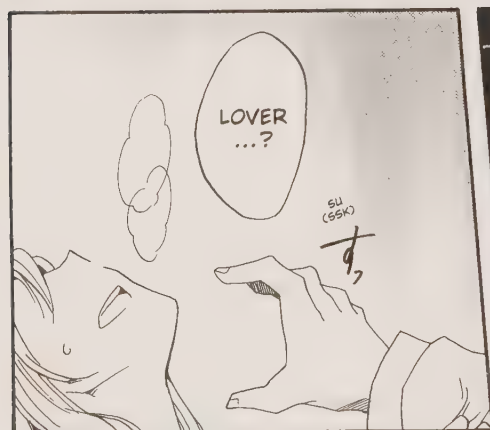


AH
GK!
...!

YOU
TELL ME
YOU...
LIKE
ME...

WHAT'S...
WRONG
WITH
YOU!?

...WHILE
YOU'RE
TRYING
TO K-KILL
ME!?



LOVER
...?

SH
(GSK)



TO HAVE...
A MAN
LIKE YOU
AS A
LOVER...
POOR
VIVALDI!

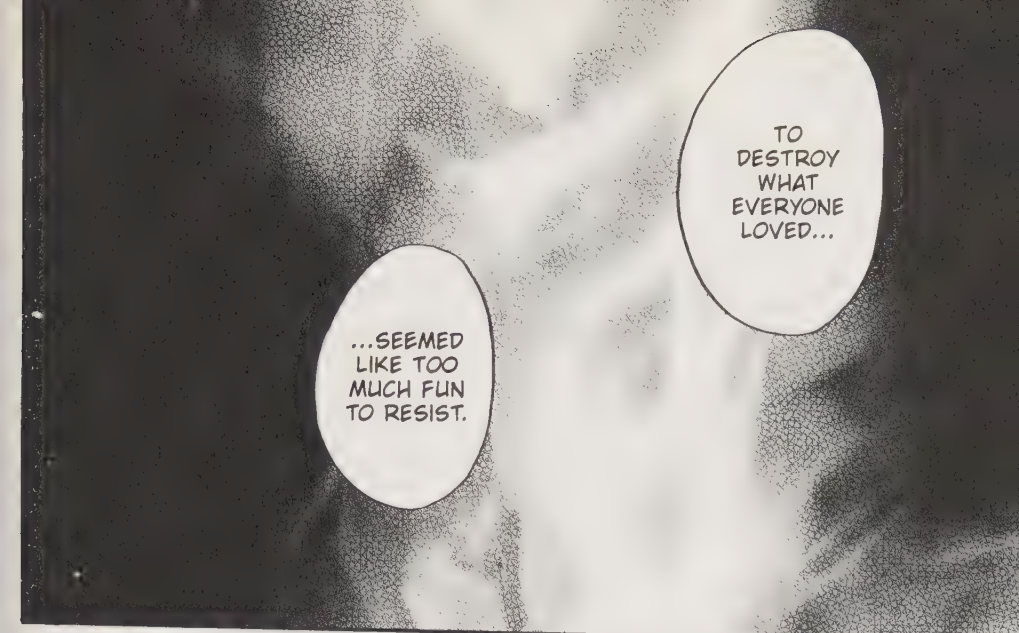


HAGCK!

.....?

HA
HA...

IT
SEEMS I
WAS TOO
HASTY.



TO
DESTROY
WHAT
EVERYONE
LOVED...

...SEEMED
LIKE TOO
MUCH FUN
TO RESIST.



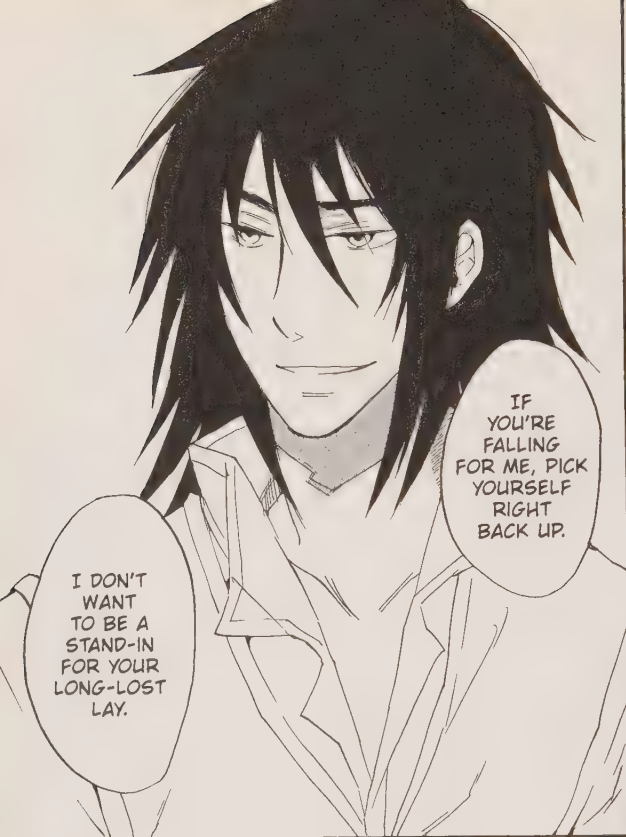
I NEVER
THOUGHT
I WOULD
COME BACK
TO CRUSHING
YOU LIKE
THIS...



BUT YOU
TURNED OUT
TO BE MORE
INTERESTING
ALIVE.

I
LIKED
YOU.

TO
THE POINT
WHERE
I DIDN'T
WANT TO
KILL YOU.



I DON'T WANT TO BE A STAND-IN FOR YOUR LONG-LOST LAY.

IF YOU'RE FALLING FOR ME, PICK YOURSELF RIGHT BACK UP.



YOU'RE CERTAINLY INTERESTED IN THIS.

...AH, I KNOW WHY—

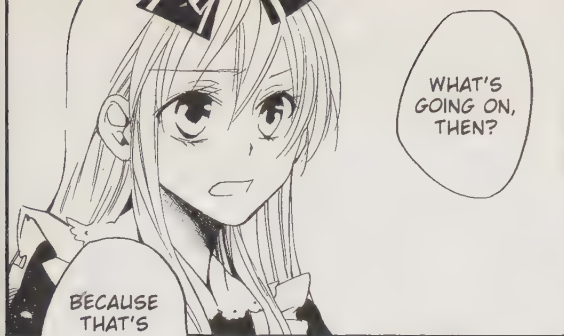


AAA
(BLUSH)

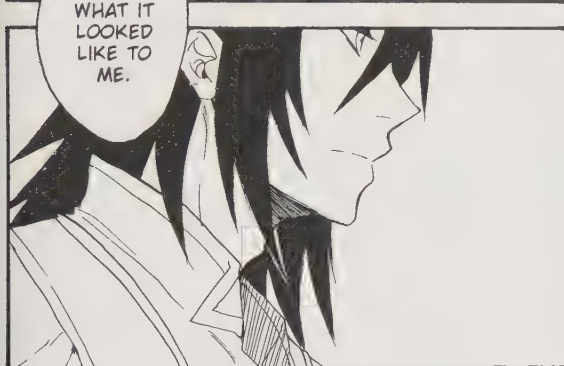
かあ？

WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS TO ME!?

YOU...



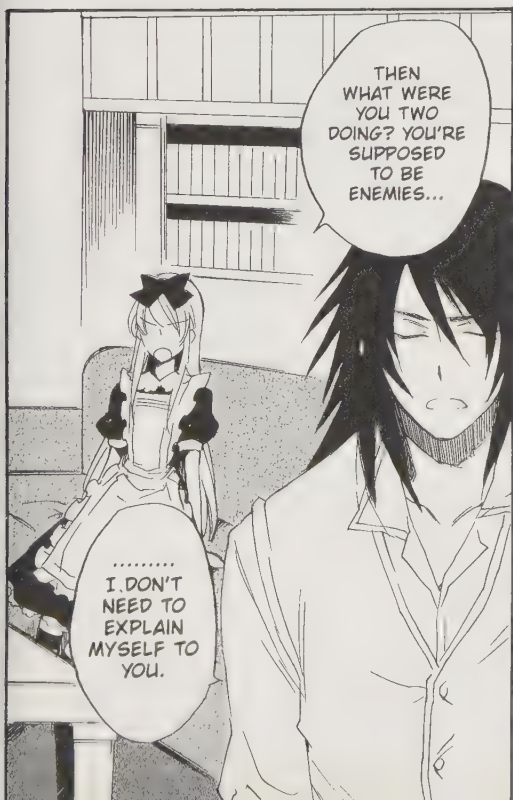
WHAT'S
GOING ON,
THEN?



BECAUSE
THAT'S
WHAT IT
LOOKED
LIKE TO
ME.



THAT
WOMAN IS
NOT MY
LOVER.



THEN
WHAT WERE
YOU TWO
DOING? YOU'RE
SUPPOSED
TO BE
ENEMIES...

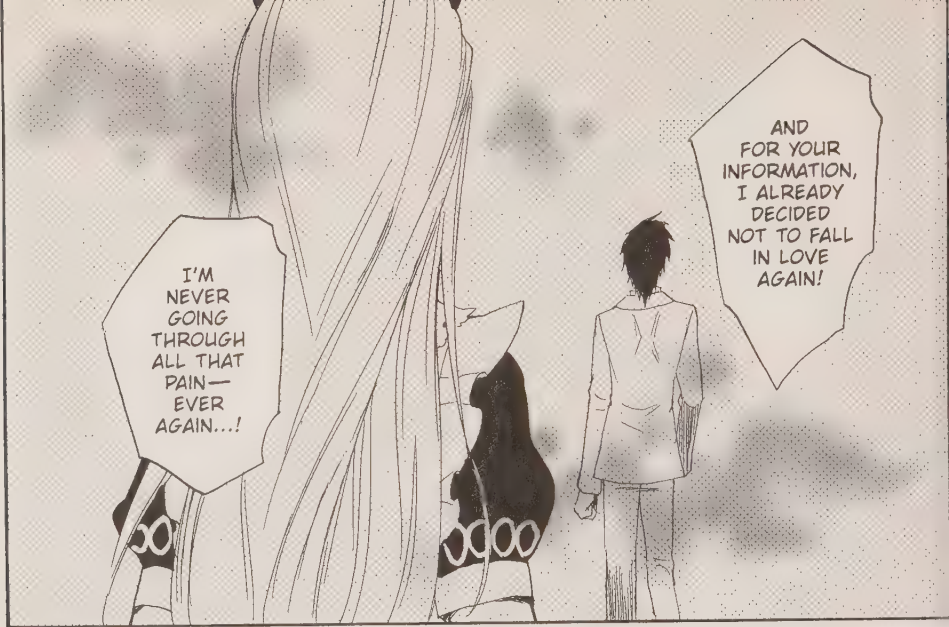
.....
I DON'T
NEED TO
EXPLAIN
MYSELF TO
YOU.



I CAN'T
IMAGINE THEM
ACTING AS
FRIENDS.

THINK
WHAT YOU
WANT TO
THINK.

NO
ONE WILL
BELIEVE
YOU
ANYWAY.



I'M
NEVER
GOING
THROUGH
ALL THAT
PAIN—
EVER
AGAIN...!

AND
FOR YOUR
INFORMATION,
I ALREADY
DECIDED
NOT TO FALL
IN LOVE
AGAIN!

...OH?

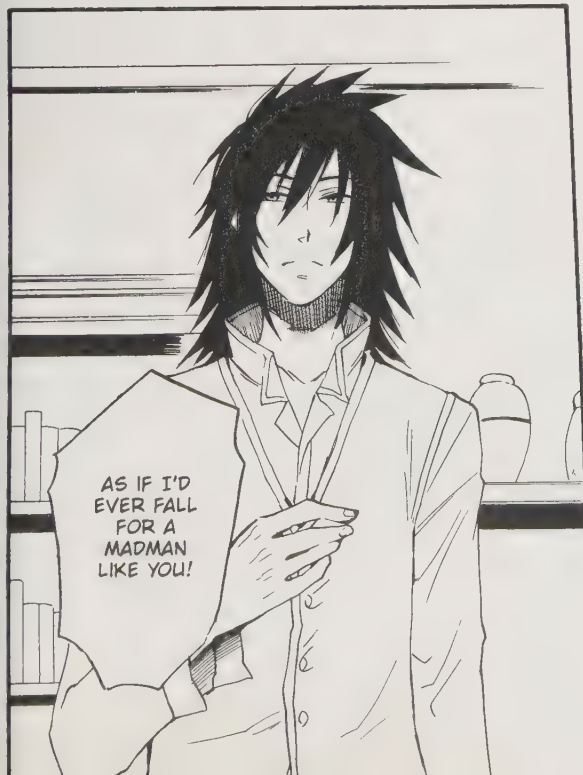


—!



GOOD.

ONE
LESS
HASSLE IN
MY LIFE.





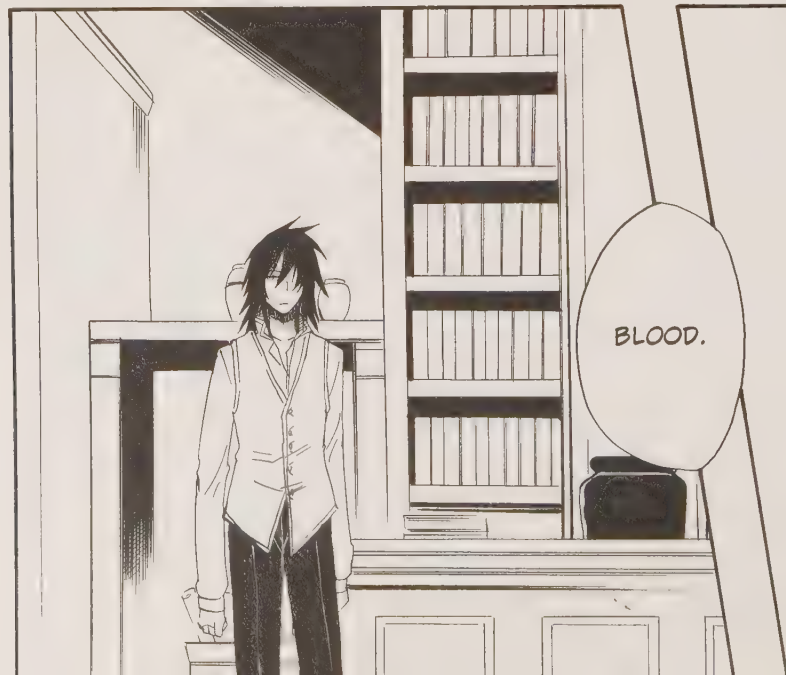
ALICE,
WAIT!



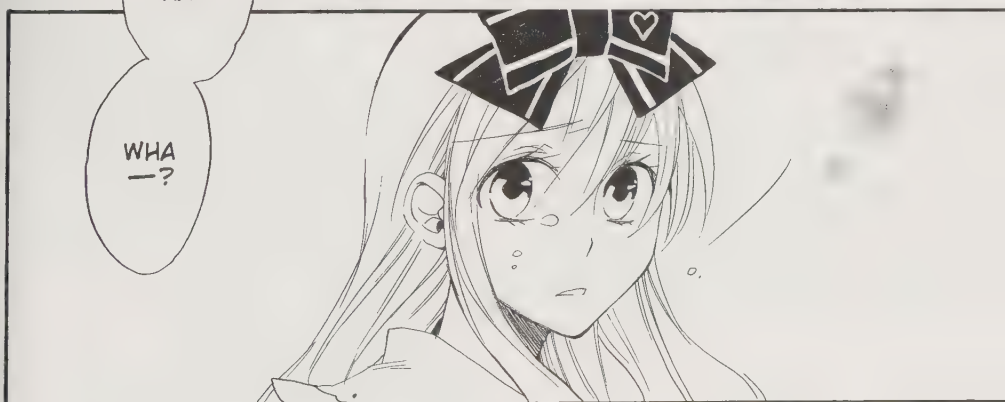
DA
(CRASH)

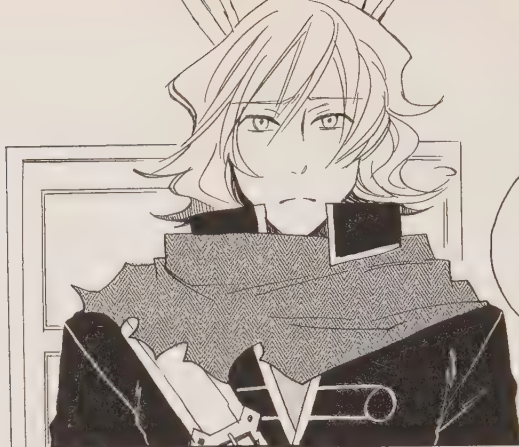


DID
SOME-
THING
HAPPEN
WITH
BLOOD
...?



BLOOD.





I HAVE
WORK TO
DO.

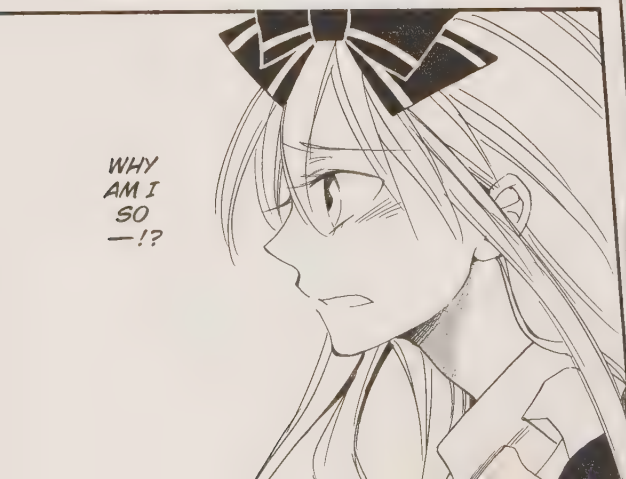
LEAVE
ME BE.



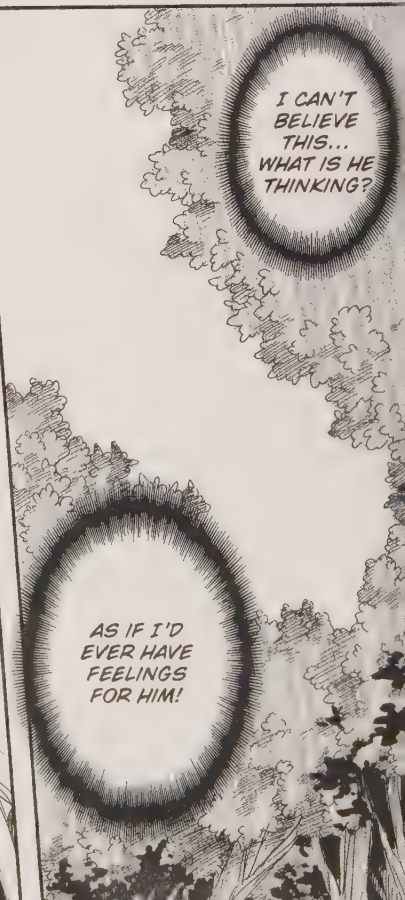
GOOD.

BUT
THEN...
WHY?

ONE
LESS
HASSLE IN
MY LIFE.

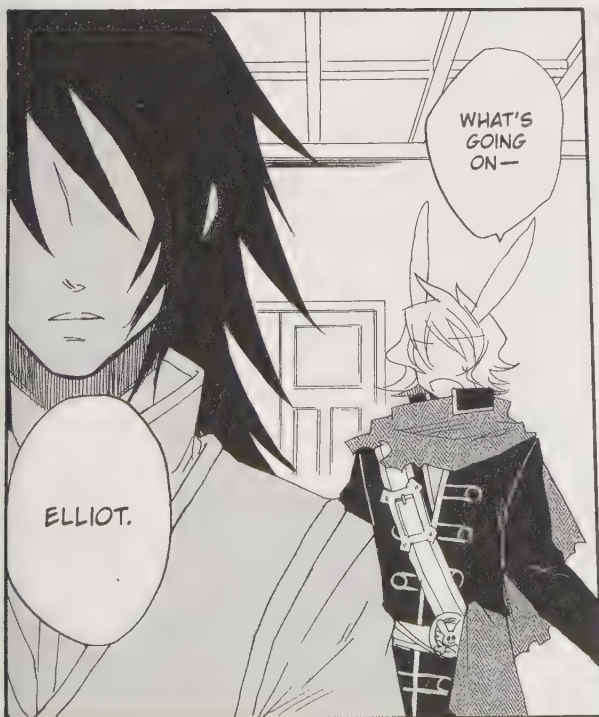
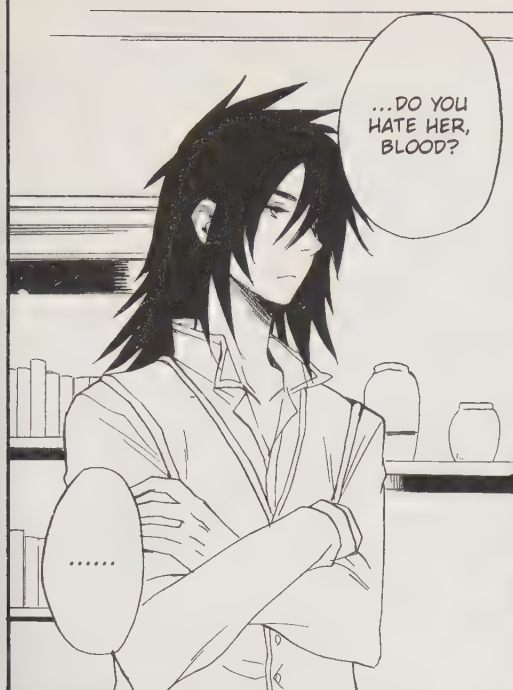


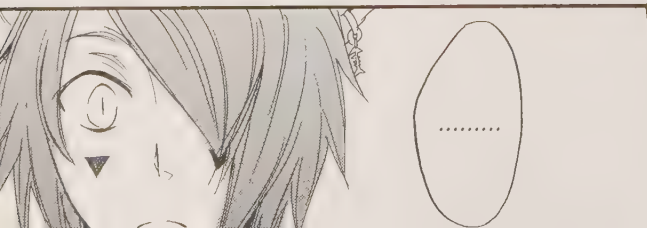
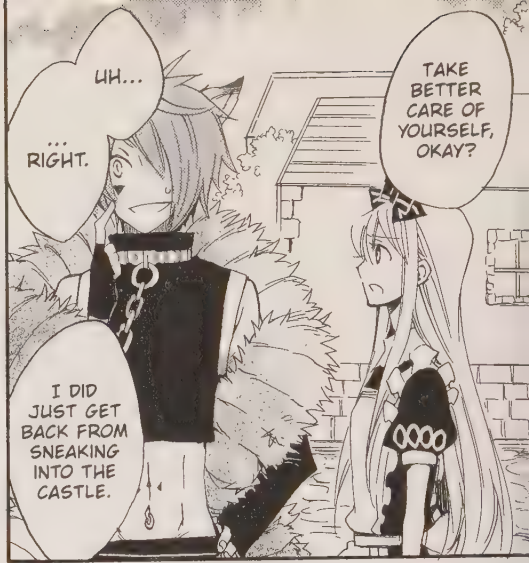
WHY
AM I
SO
—!?



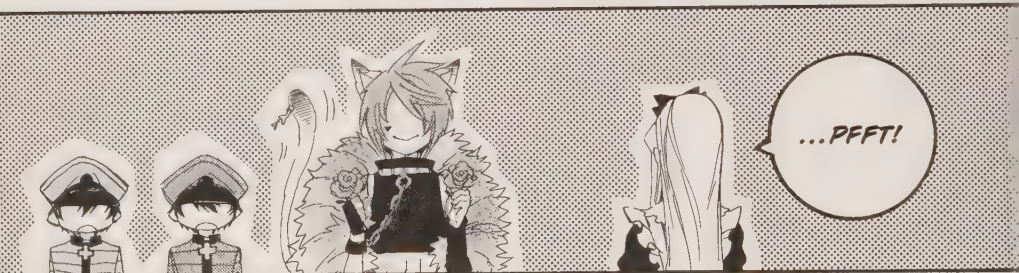
I CAN'T
BELIEVE
THIS...
WHAT IS HE
THINKING?

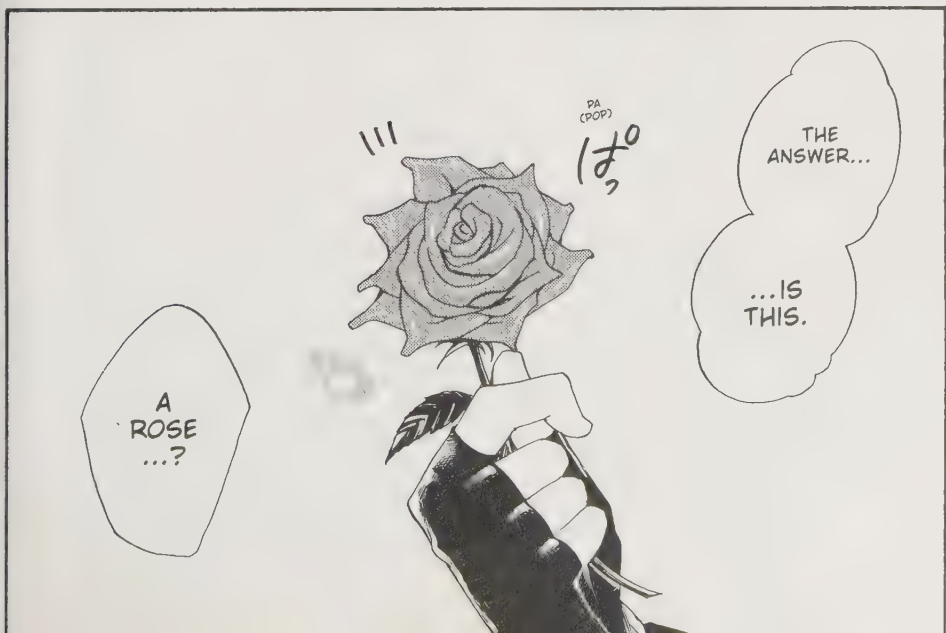
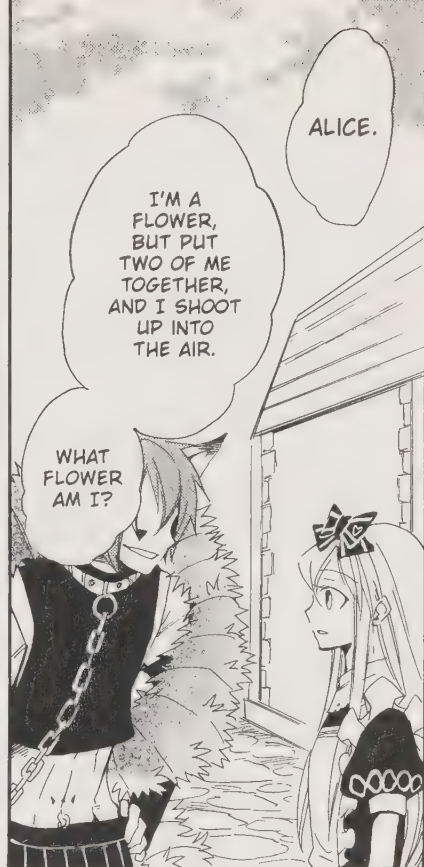
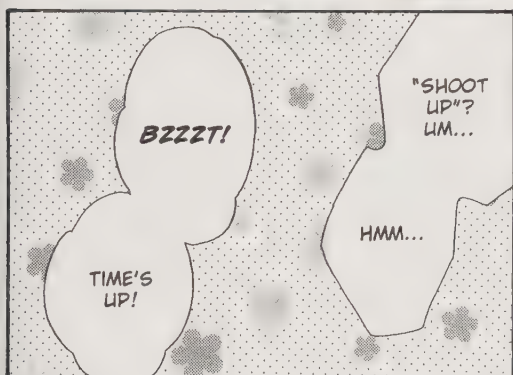
AS IF I'D
EVER HAVE
FEELINGS
FOR HIM!

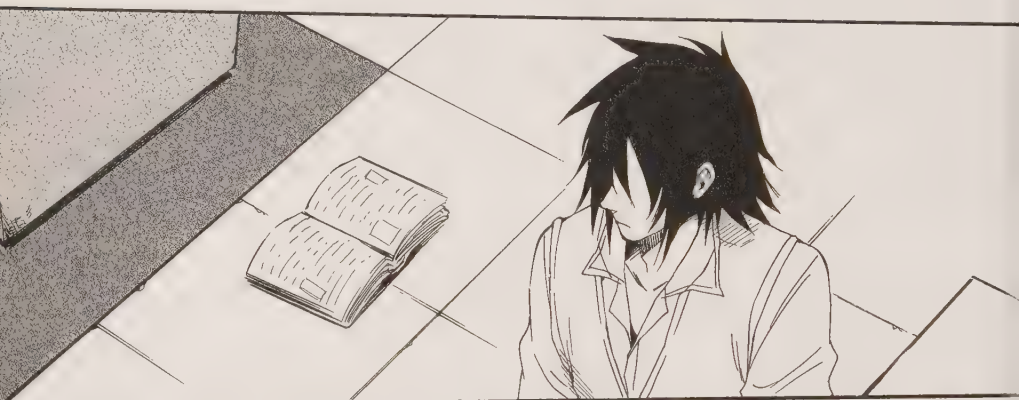


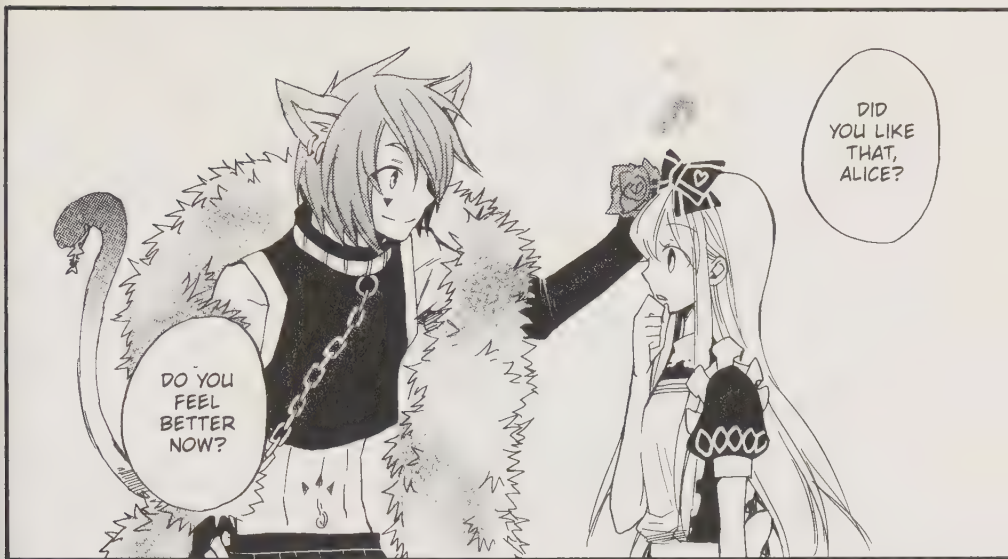






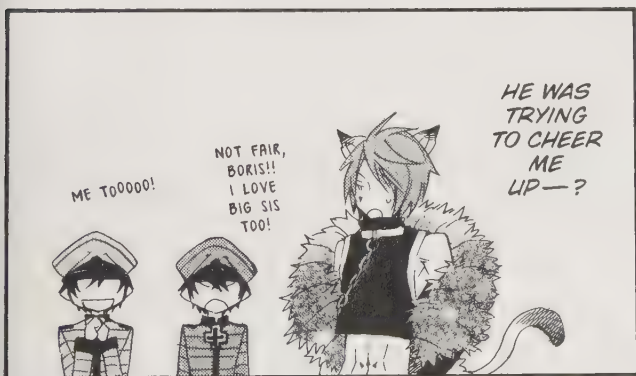






DO YOU
FEEL
BETTER
NOW?

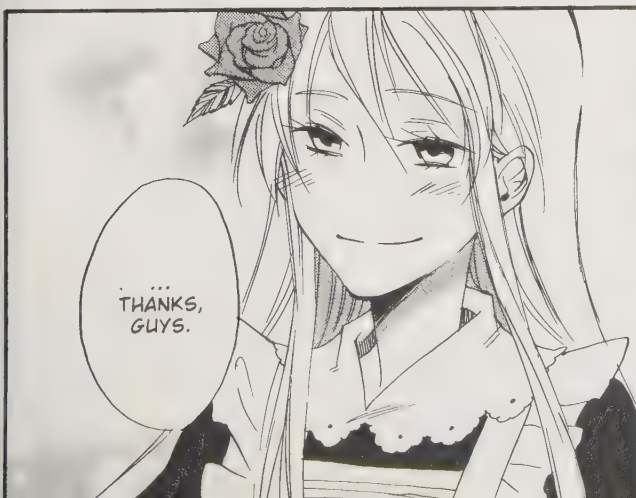
DID
YOU LIKE
THAT,
ALICE?



ME TOO0000!

NOT FAIR,
BORIS!!
I LOVE
BIG SIS
TOO!

HE WAS
TRYING
TO CHEER
ME
UP—?



THANKS,
GUYS.

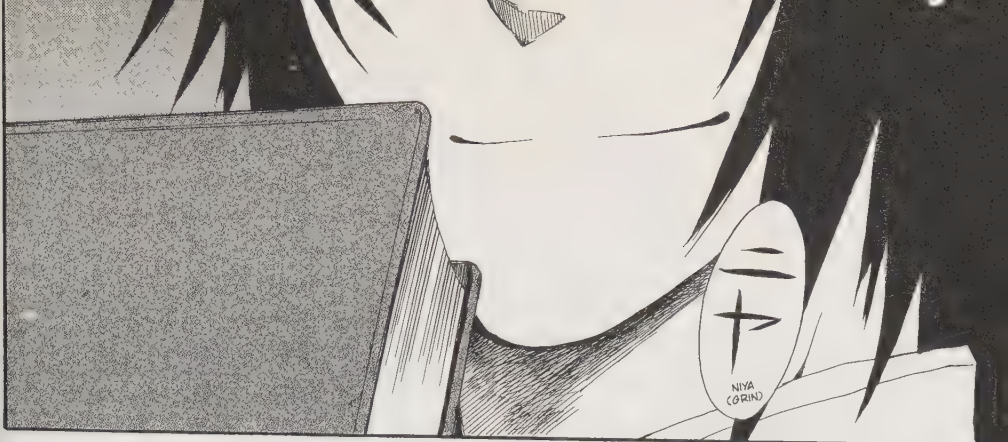


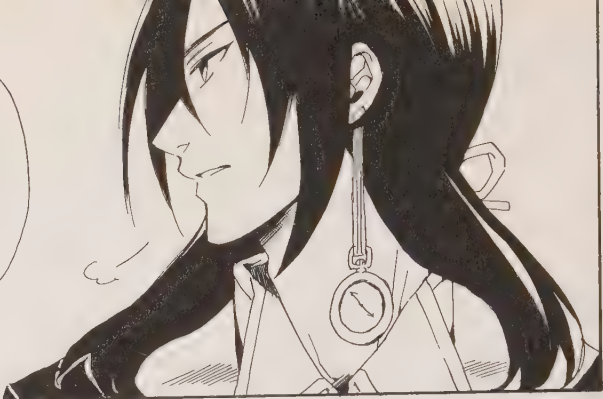
I LOVE
IT WHEN
YOU
LAUGH!

♥15 Crooked Love

SORRY,
ALICE.

OOPS...



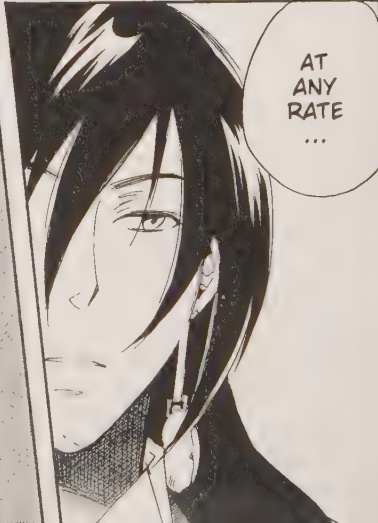


HE'S BEEN
LIKE THAT
FOR A
WHILE.



LOSING
HIS WAY
ISN'T
NEW FOR
HIM...

...BUT
HE'S
DEFINITELY
GOTTEN
WORSE.



AT
ANY
RATE
...

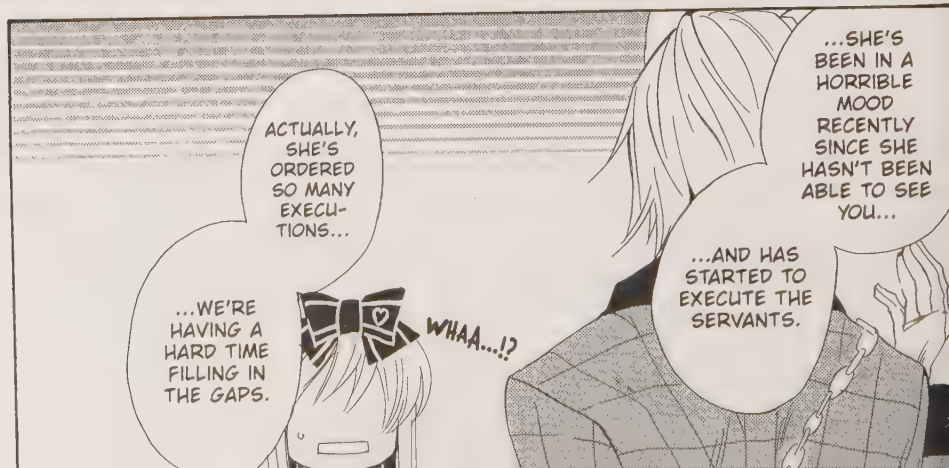
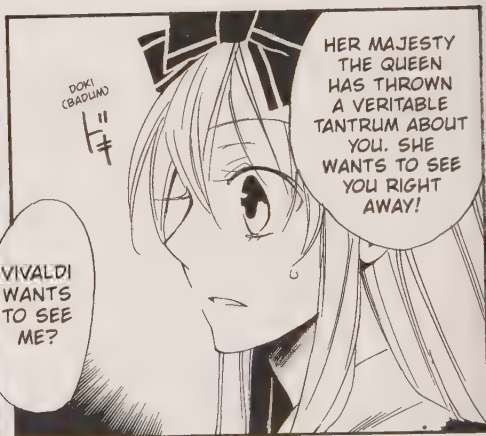
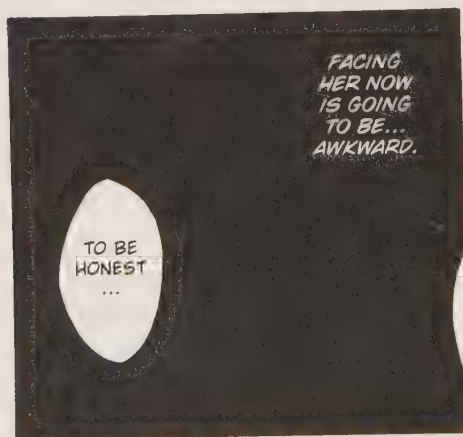
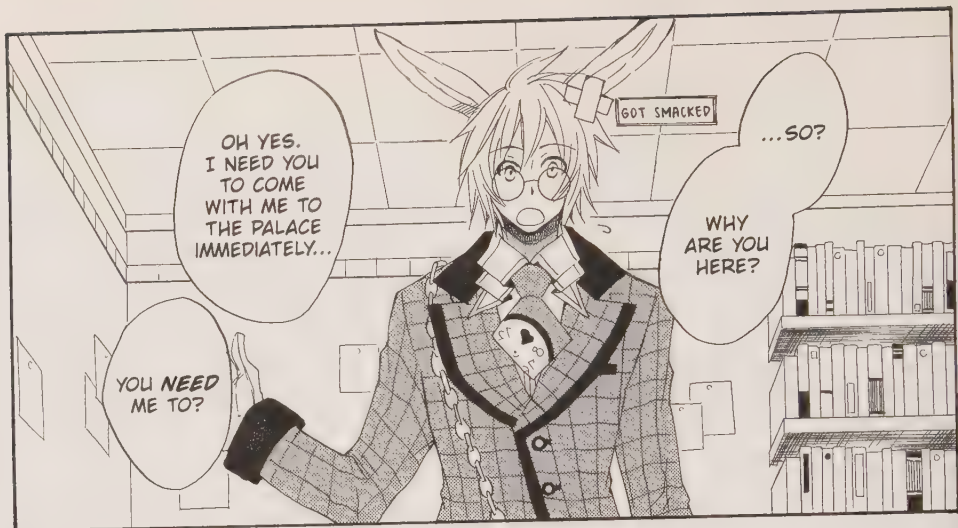


...WHERE
DID YOU
GET ALL
THOSE
BOOKS?

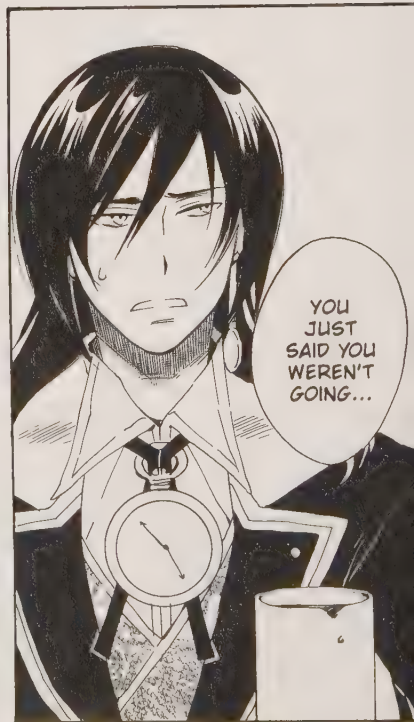
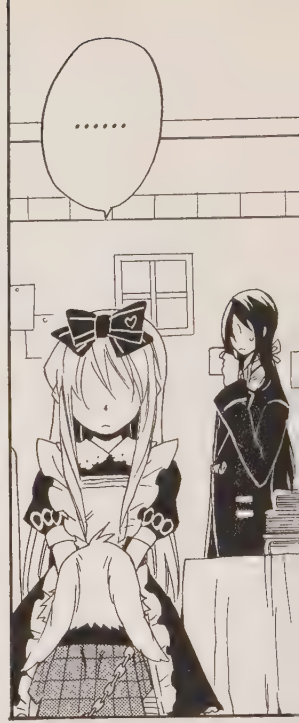
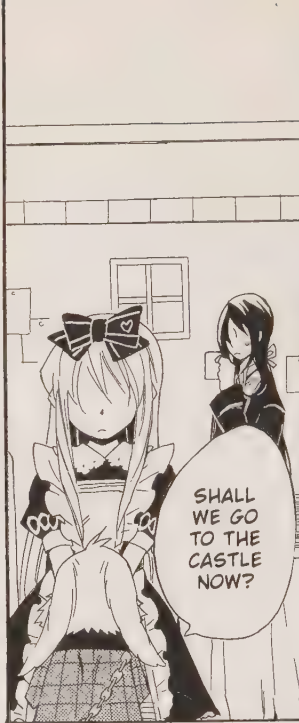
I
BOUGHT
THEM IN
TOWN.

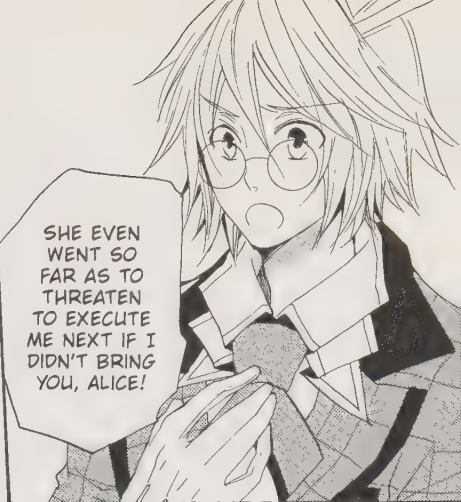
I HAD
A LOT OF
MY SALARY
SAVED UP.

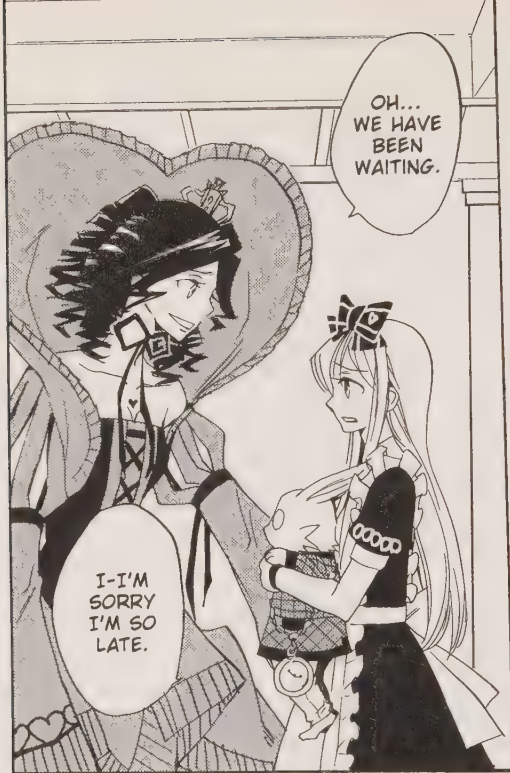












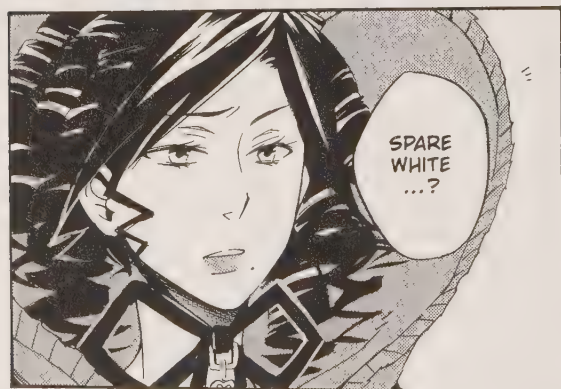
OH...
WE HAVE
BEEN
WAITING.

I-I'M
SORRY
I'M SO
LATE.



ALICE!

H-HELLO.



SPARE
WHITE
...?



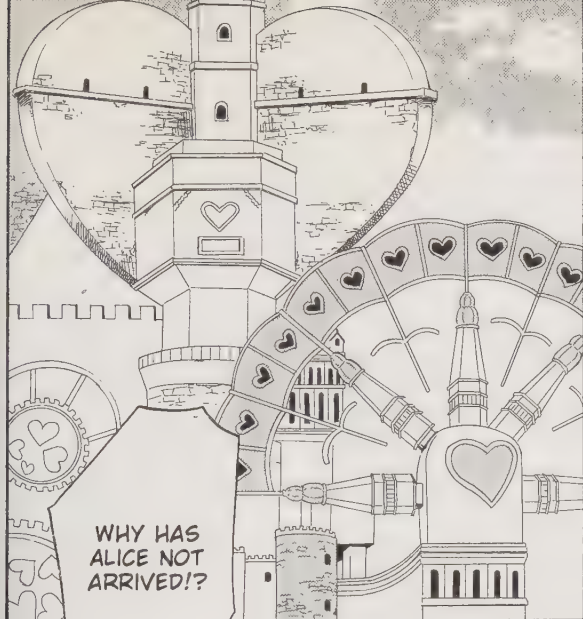
...AH.

THERE YOU
ARE.



BUT
SINCE I'M
HERE...

...WOULD
YOU
PLEASE
AGREE
TO SPARE
PETER
NOW?



WHY HAS
ALICE NOT
ARRIVED!?

SO I'LL
BE TAKING
MY LEAVE!
SEE YOU
LATER.

バタン
BATAN
(SLAM)

...I THINK I
UNDERSTAND
HER EARLIER
"ANIMAL
DETOUR"
NOW.



SILENCE!

OR WE
WILL HAVE
YOUR HEAD
AS WELL!

B-BUT
VIVALDI,
WE'RE
SO LOW
ON—

OFF
WITH
THAT
SOL-
DIER'S
HEAD!



THAT
USELESS
WHITE!

HYOKO
(POPO)

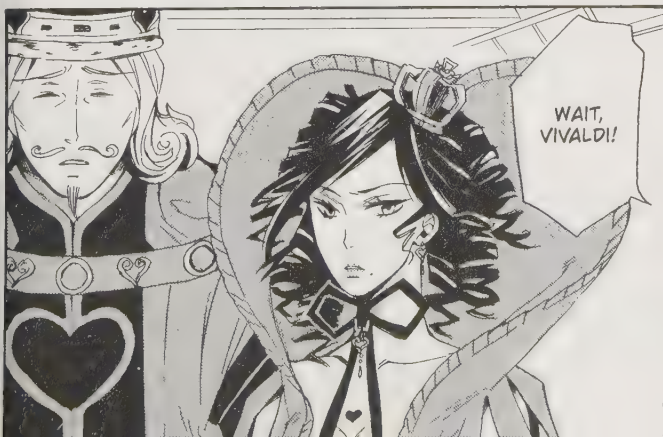


SHE'S
HYSTERICAL.

AHH...
IT
VEXES
US!

VERY!

WAIT,
VIVALDI!





HEH
HEH.

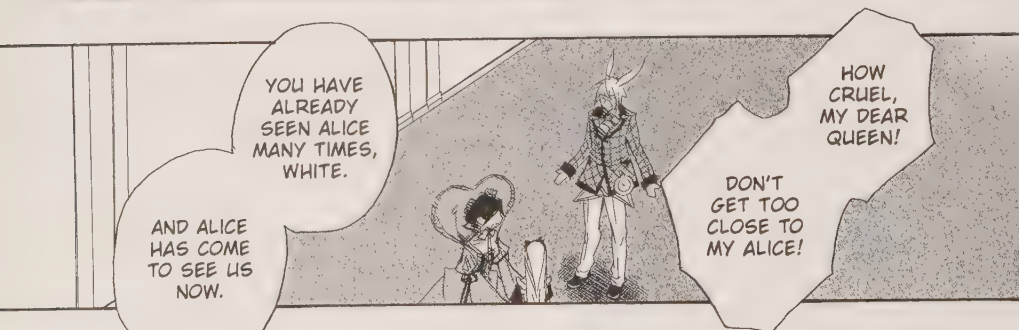
TOO BAD.

THIS
TIME WE
WILL NOT
SHARE HER
WITH YOU.



BUT
ALL IS
WELL.

I WANTED
ALICE HERE
AS MUCH
AS THE
QUEEN DID.



YOU HAVE
ALREADY
SEEN ALICE
MANY TIMES,
WHITE.

AND ALICE
HAS COME
TO SEE US
NOW.

HOW
CRUEL,
MY DEAR
QUEEN!

DON'T
GET TOO
CLOSE TO
MY ALICE!



HUH?

MY
WORK!?

HE'LL TAKE
CARE OF
IT ALL AS
ALWAYS!

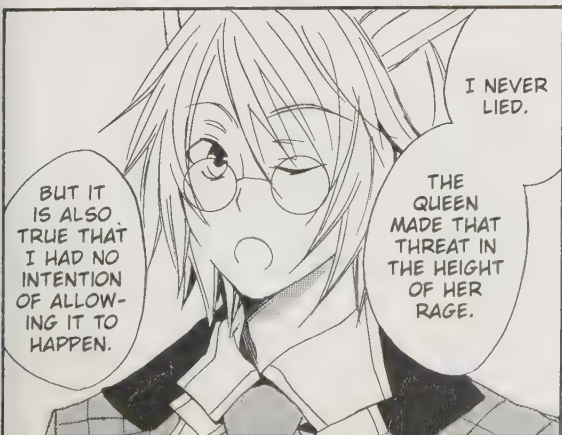
BA
(POINT)

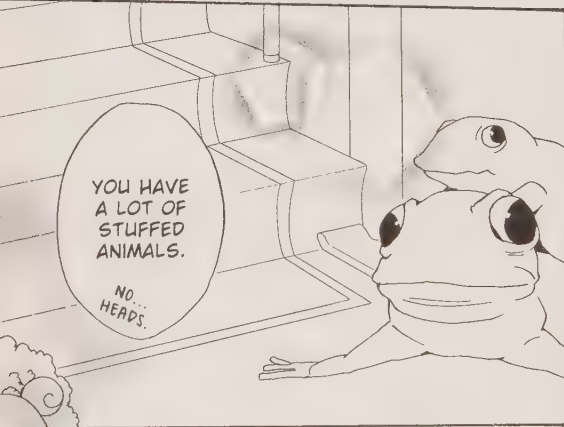
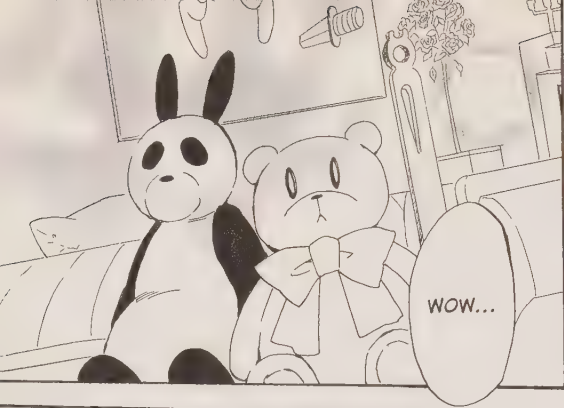


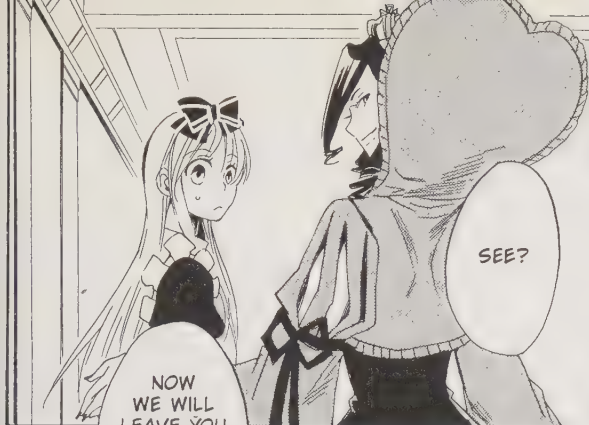
WE ARE
ALSO WELL
AWARE
THAT
YOU ARE
BEHIND
IN YOUR
WORK.

FINISH
THAT
BEFORE
YOU
DEMAND
ANY-
THING!

(GIRI
GIRI)

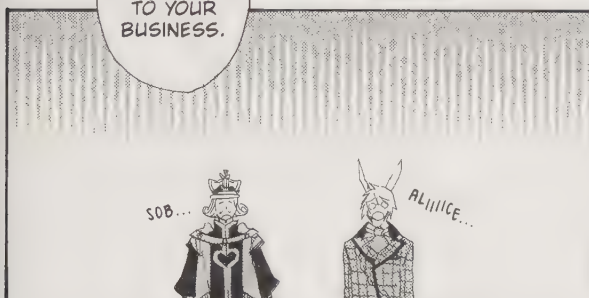






NOW
WE WILL
LEAVE YOU
TO YOUR
BUSINESS.

SEE?



SOB...

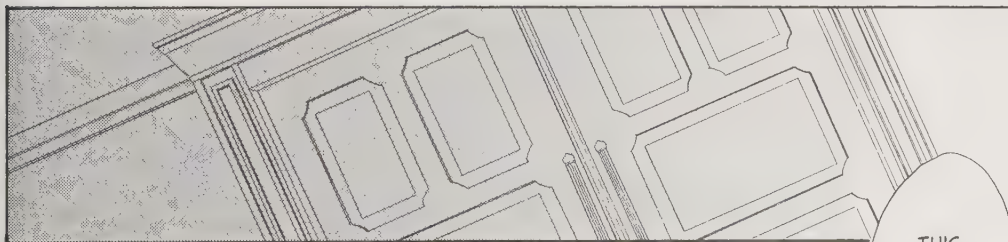
ALIIICE...



WHITE
...

...WE'RE
SHORT ON
HELP, SO
THERE'S
TOO MUCH
WORK PILED
UP.

I CAN'T
TAKE CARE
OF YOUR
SHARE
THIS TIME.



DOKI
(BADUHO)

WHAT
WILL I DO
IF IT'S A
COLLEC-
TION OF
HEADS...?

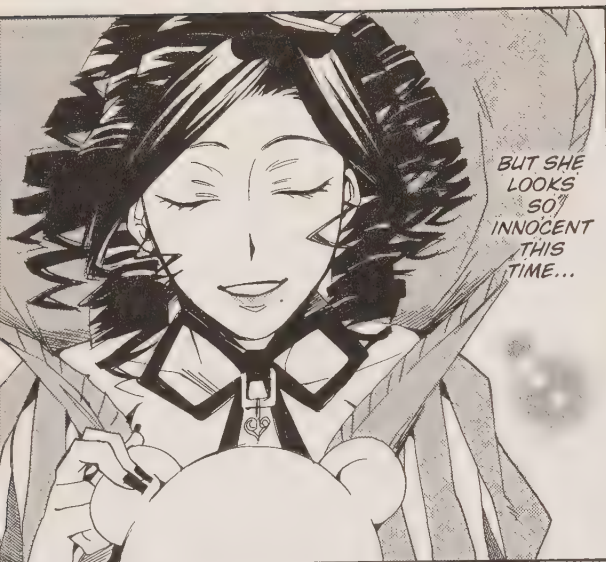
SECRET
HOBBY
!?



THIS
IS OUR
ROOM.

NOW,
ALICE
...

...WE WILL
SHOW YOU
OUR SECRET
HOBBY.



BUT SHE
LOOKS
SO
INNOCENT
THIS
TIME...



you
sigh

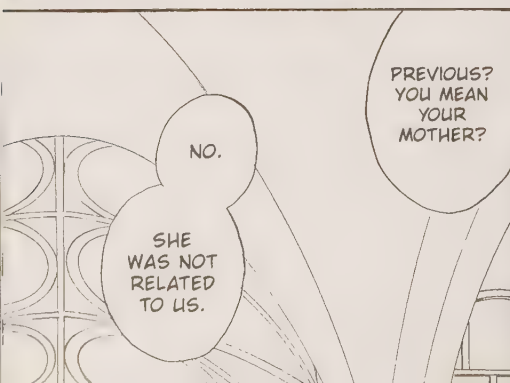
SHE'S
EVEN
MORE
BEAUTI-
FUL UP
CLOSE.



HMM?
OH... WE
DO NOT
REMEM-
BER.

IT WAS
WHEN THE
PREVIOUS
QUEEN
RETIRED.

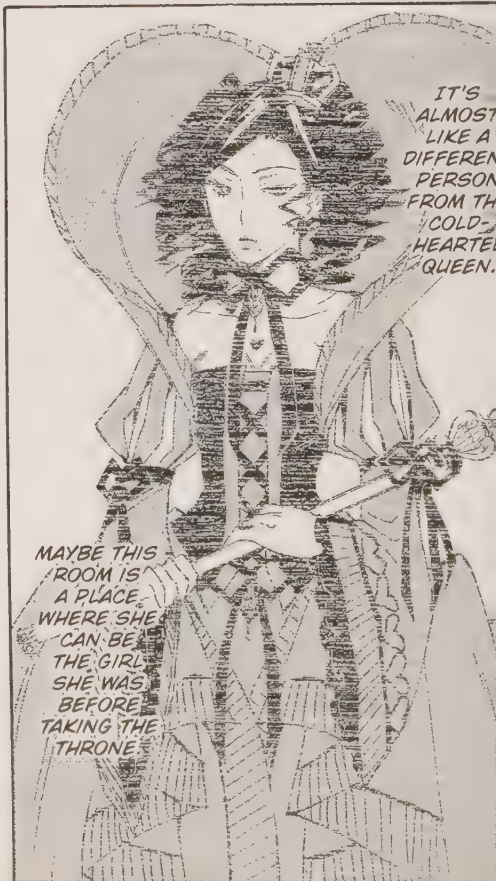
HOW OLD
WERE YOU
WHEN YOU
BECAME THE
QUEEN OF
HEARTS,
VIVALDI?



NO.

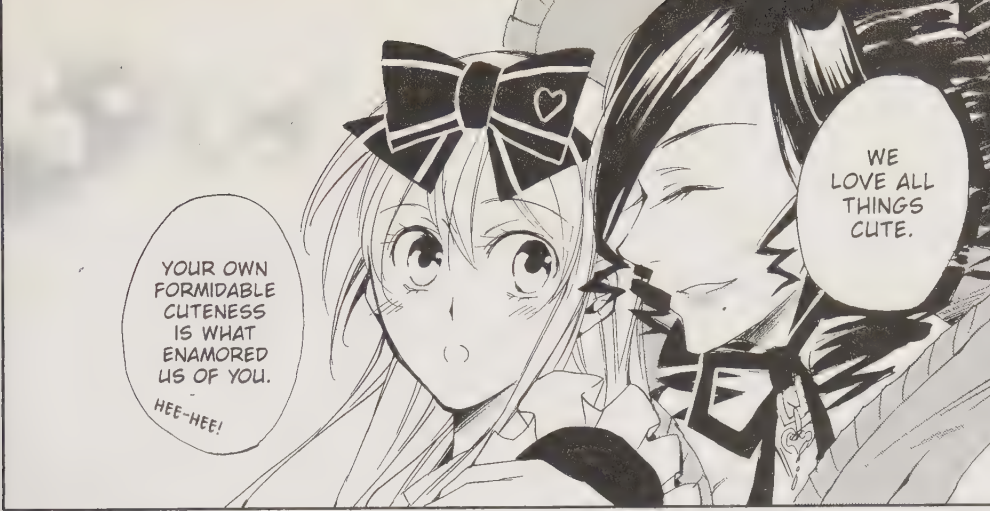
SHE
WAS NOT
RELATED
TO US.

PREVIOUS?
YOU MEAN
YOUR
MOTHER?



IT'S
ALMOST
LIKE A
DIFFERENT
PERSON
FROM THE
COLD-
HEARTED
QUEEN.

MAYBE THIS
ROOM IS
A PLACE
WHERE SHE
CAN BE
THE GIRL
SHE WAS
BEFORE
TAKING THE
THRONE



YOUR OWN
FORMIDABLE
CUTENESS
IS WHAT
ENAMORED
US OF YOU.

HEE-HEE!

WE
LOVE ALL
THINGS
CUTE.



OF
COURSE!

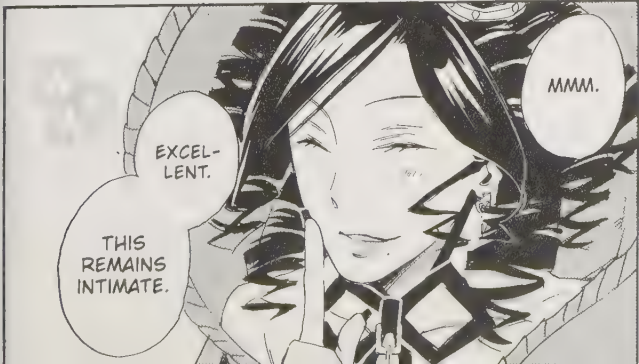
Y-
YES!

YOU
SHALL
KEEP THIS
A SECRET
FROM THE
OTHERS.

UNDER-
STOOD?



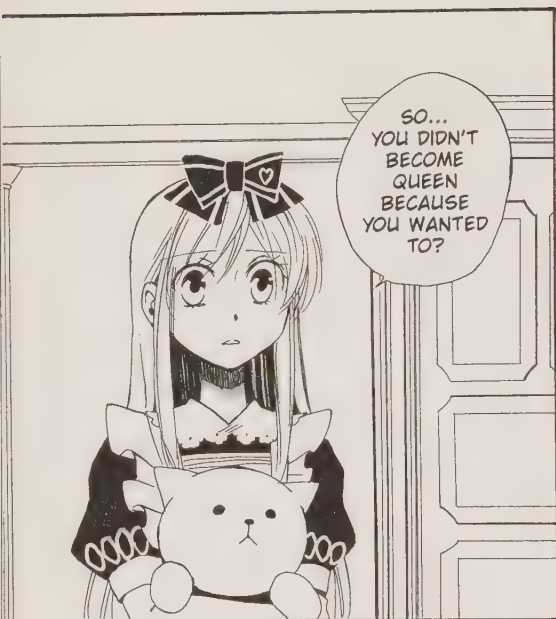
ONLY
A FEW
MAIDS
KNOW
OF THIS
HOBBY.



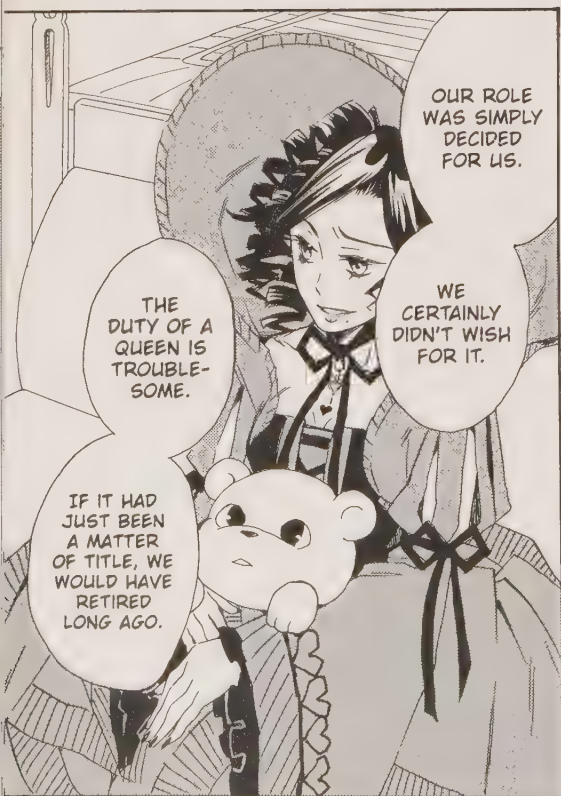
MMM.

EXCEL-
LENT.

THIS
REMAINS
INTIMATE.



SO...
YOU DIDN'T
BECOME
QUEEN
BECAUSE
YOU WANTED
TO?

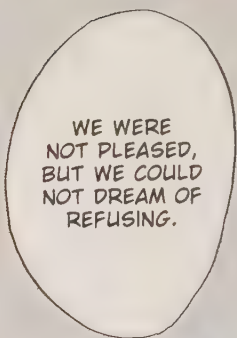


OUR ROLE
WAS SIMPLY
DECIDED
FOR US.

WE
CERTAINLY
DIDN'T WISH
FOR IT.

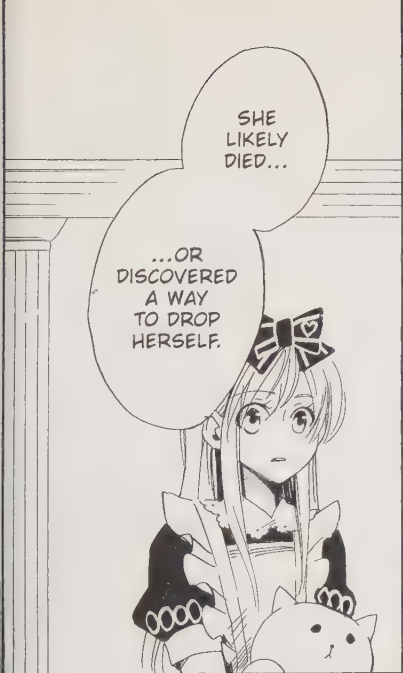
THE
DUTY OF A
QUEEN IS
TROUBLE-
SOME.

IF IT HAD
JUST BEEN
A MATTER
OF TITLE, WE
WOULD HAVE
RETIRED
LONG AGO.



WE WERE
NOT PLEASED,
BUT WE COULD
NOT DREAM OF
REFUSING.





SHE
LIKELY
DIED...

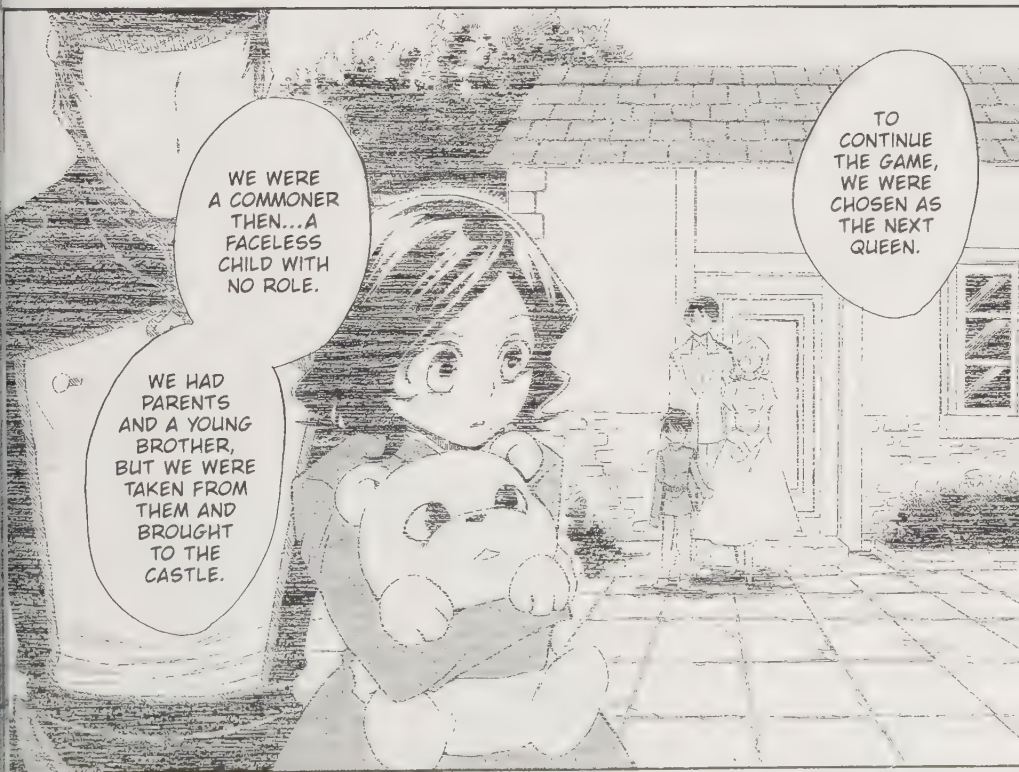
...OR
DISCOVERED
A WAY
TO DROP
HERSELF.



WE DO
NOT KNOW
IF THE
PREVIOUS
QUEEN
DIED...

ONLY
THE PEOPLE
INVOLVED
IN THE
PREVIOUS
GAME KNOW
THAT.

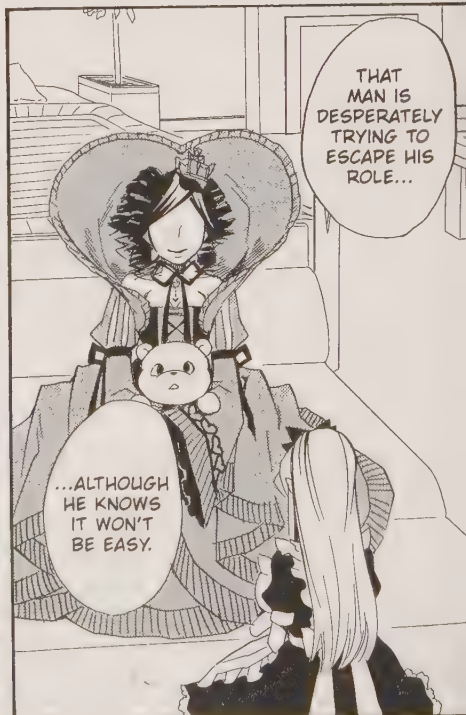
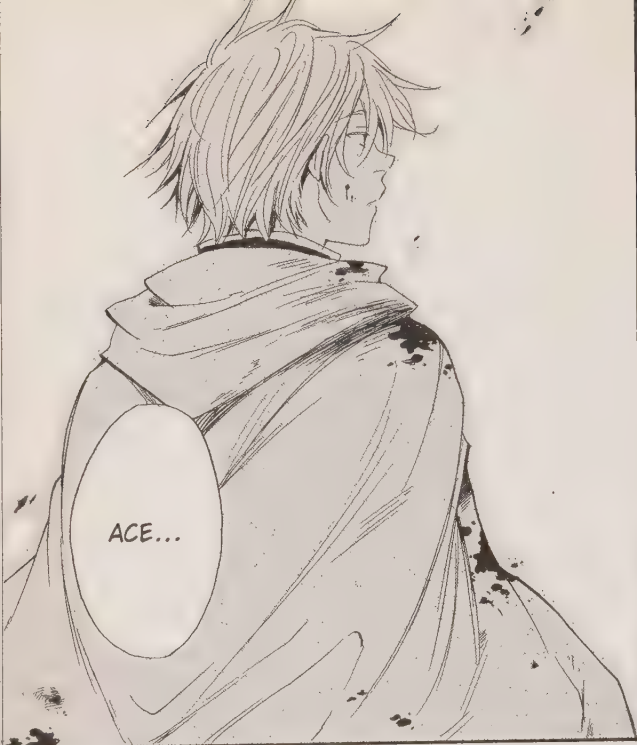
BUT A
QUEEN IS
POWERFUL.
SHE IS
NOT EASILY
DROPPED
FROM A
GAME.



WE WERE
A COMMONER
THEN...A
FACELESS
CHILD WITH
NO ROLE.

WE HAD
PARENTS
AND A YOUNG
BROTHER,
BUT WE WERE
TAKEN FROM
THEM AND
BROUGHT
TO THE
CASTLE.

TO
CONTINUE
THE GAME,
WE WERE
CHOSEN AS
THE NEXT
QUEEN.



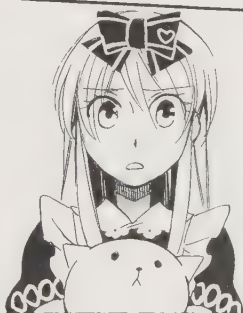
AND
IN THIS
WORLD
...

...NO ONE
KNOWS HOW
TO LIVE
WITHOUT THE
GAME.

BUT
IF ONE
DROPS HER
ROLE, SHE
GIVES UP
ON THE
GAME.

THE
GAME...

...HUH.



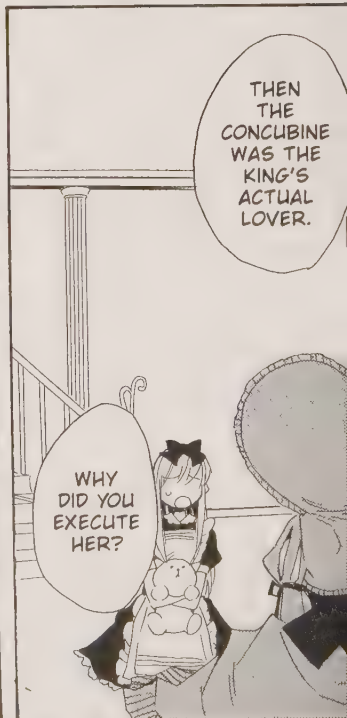
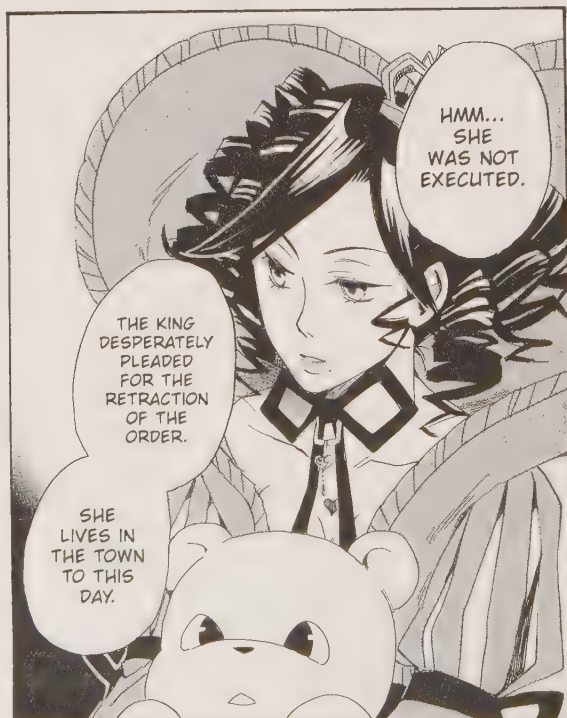
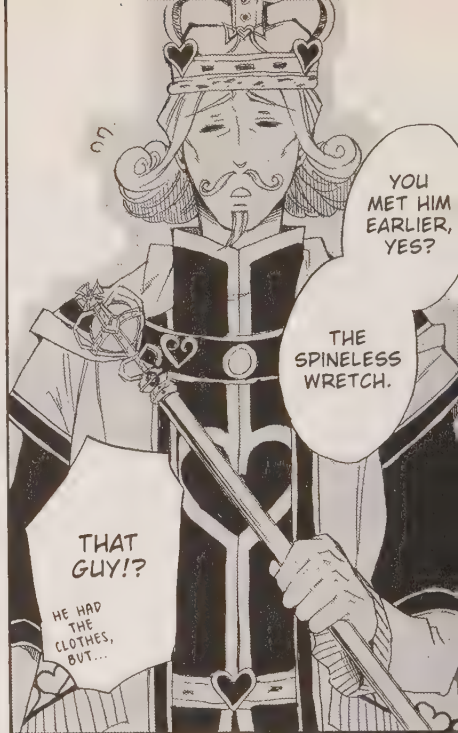
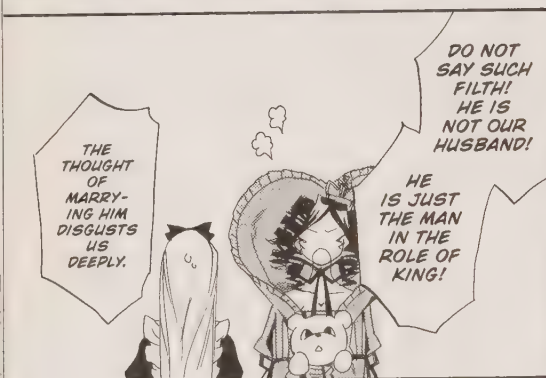
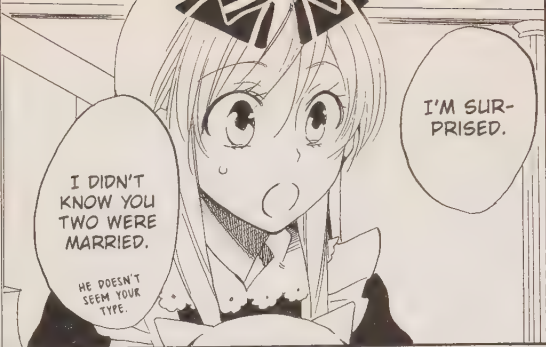
THERE
ARE THOSE
WHO ENJOY
THE GAME.

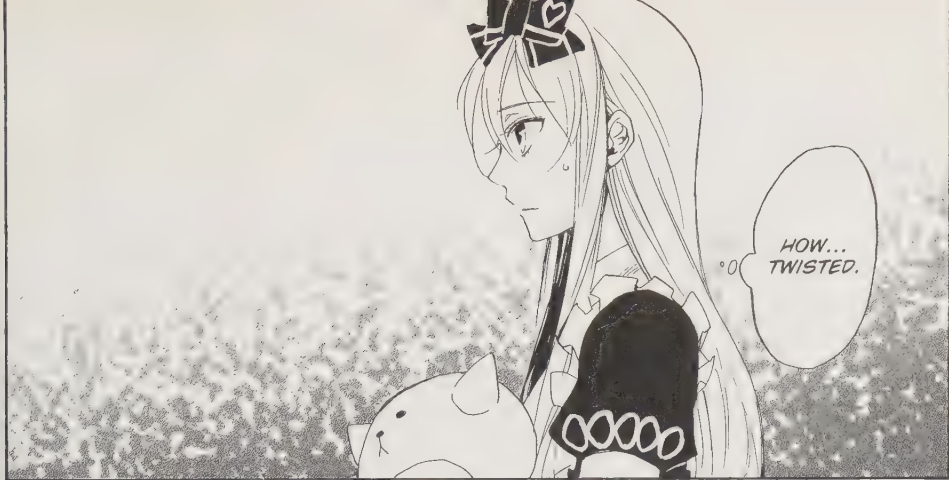
BUT
THERE
ARE ALSO
THOSE WHO
FIGHT IT.

IT MAY
BE HARD
FOR AN
OUTSIDER
...

...TO
UNDER-
STAND THIS
WORLD.





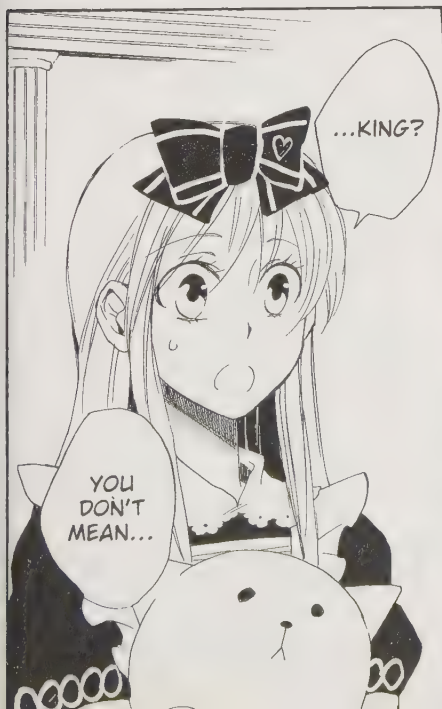


HOW...
TWISTED.



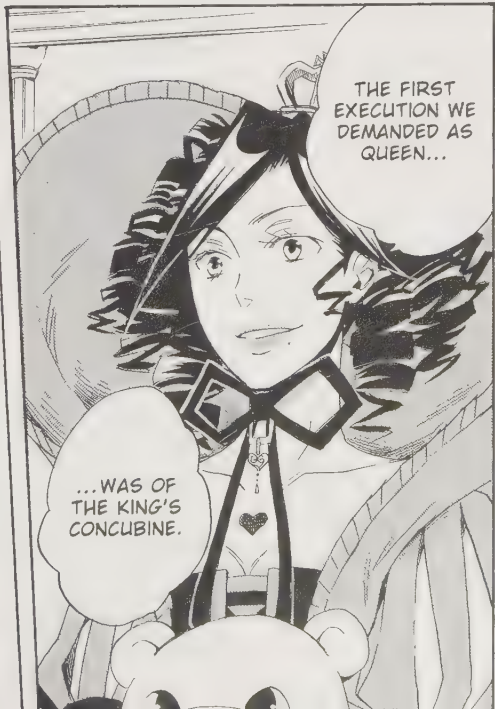
AS DOES A
WELL-ORDERED
BEHEADING!

WATCHING
HIM PROVIDES
US WITH
STRESS RELIEF.



...KING?

YOU
DON'T
MEAN...



THE FIRST
EXECUTION WE
DEMANDED AS
QUEEN...

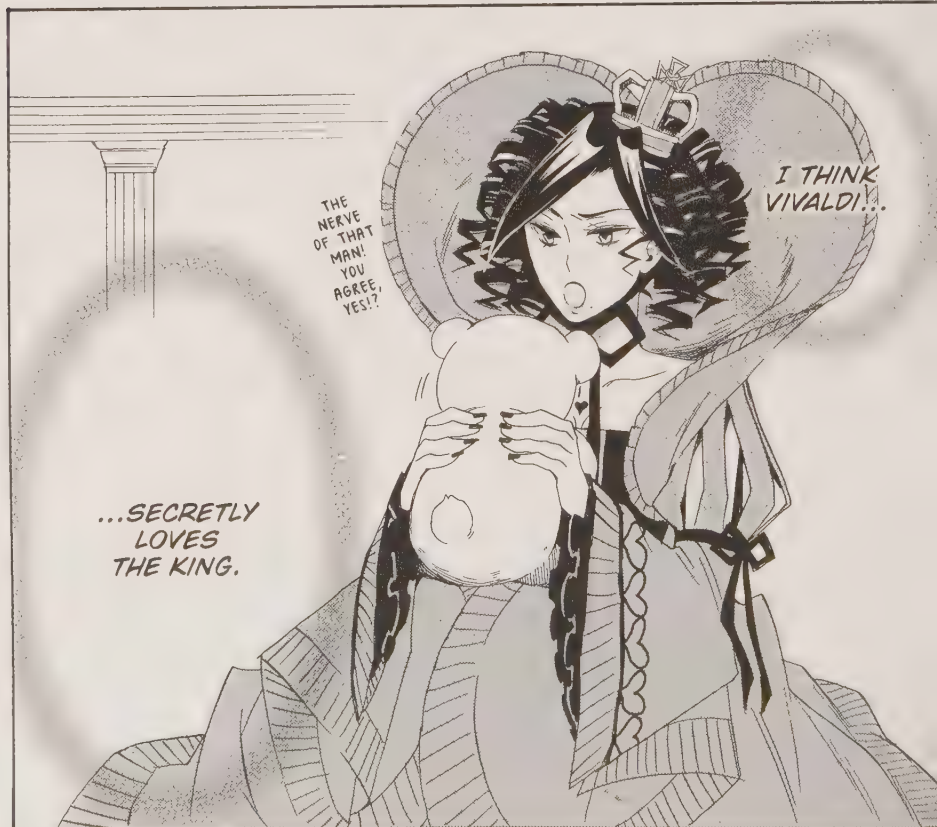
...WAS OF
THE KING'S
CONCUBINE.



HEE...

BUT...

...I THINK
SHE
WAS JUST
JEALOUS.



THE
NERVE
OF THAT
MAN!
YOU
AGREE,
YES!?

I THINK
VIVALDI!...

...SECRETLY
LOVES
THE KING.

THE
EXECUTION
WAS
RETRACTED,
BUT THE
CRIME WAS
GRAVE...

YES.

IT VEXED
US—HENCE,
WE WISHED
THE DEATH
OF HIS
LOVER.

THAT'S
HIS
CRIME...?

CAN
YOU CALL
THAT A
CRIME?

AT THE
TIME, WE
WERE A
BEAUTIFUL
FLOWER JUST
BLOOMING
INTO ADULT-
HOOD.

THAT IS
WHY WE
HEEDED
HIS PLEA.

STILL,
THE KING
HAS SOME
VALUE.

WE GIVE HIM
ODD DUTIES.

YET THE
KING DID
NOT LAY
HIS HANDS
ON US.

HOW
INSOLENT!

♥16 Sweet Dream Taste

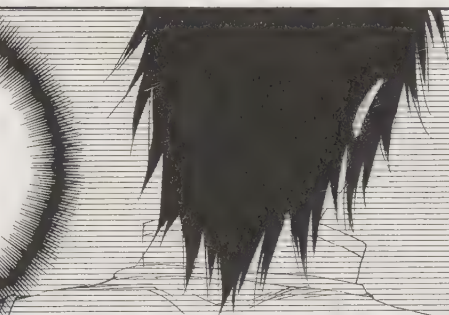


...WHAT
ON EARTH
WAS
THAT?

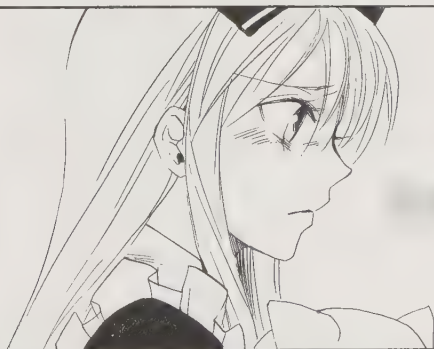
THEN...



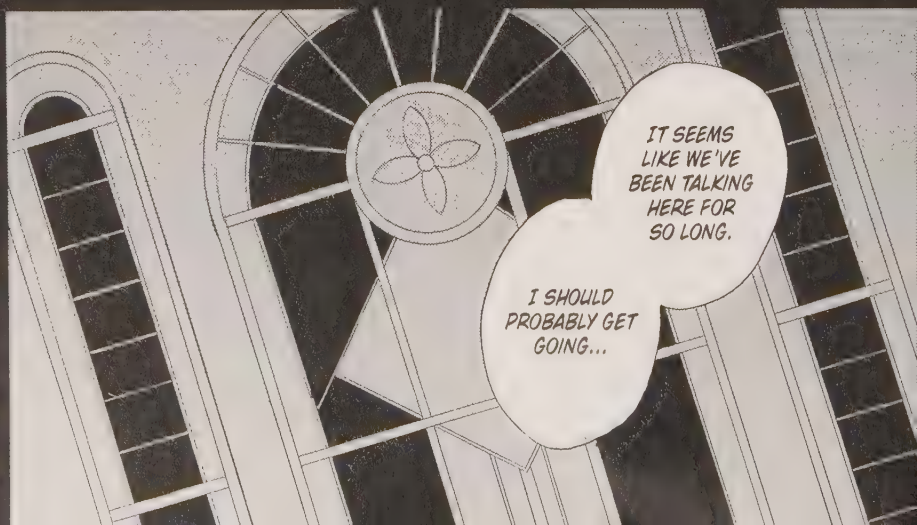
THAT WOMAN
IS NOT MY
LOVER.

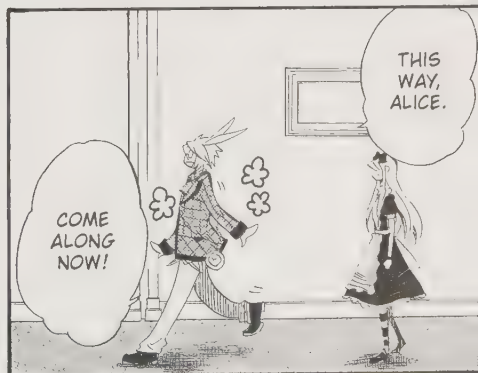
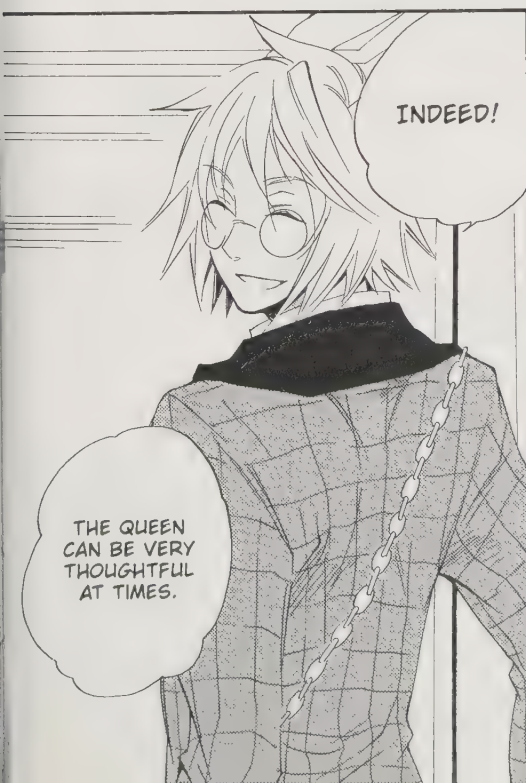


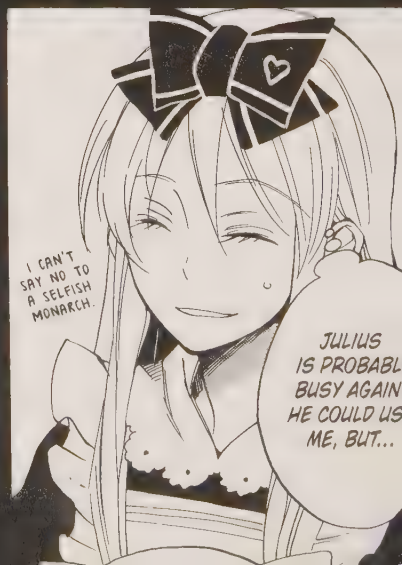
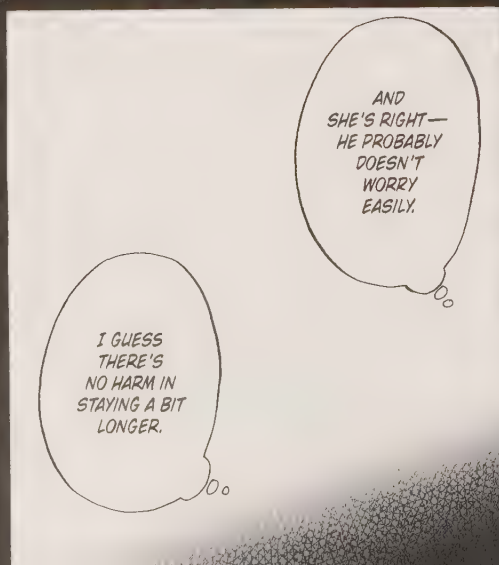
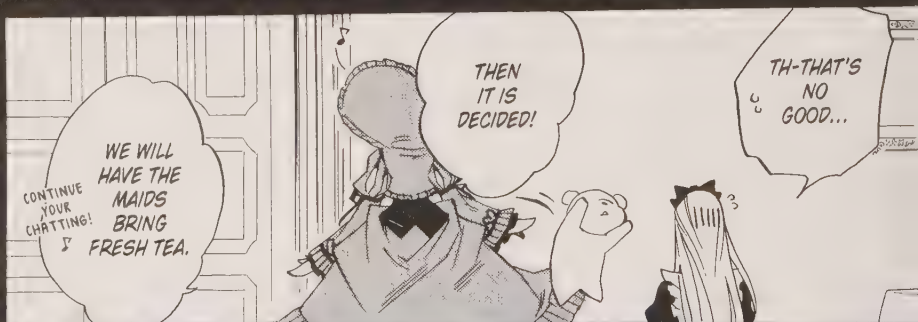
MY HEAD IS
SPINNING...

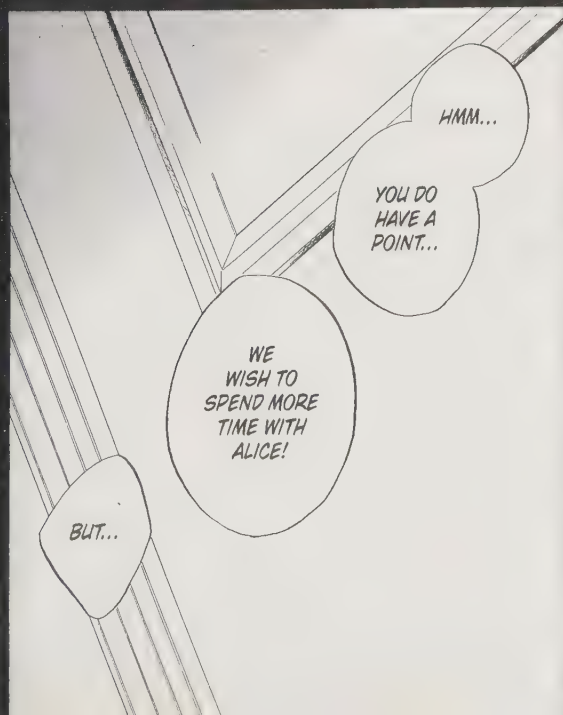
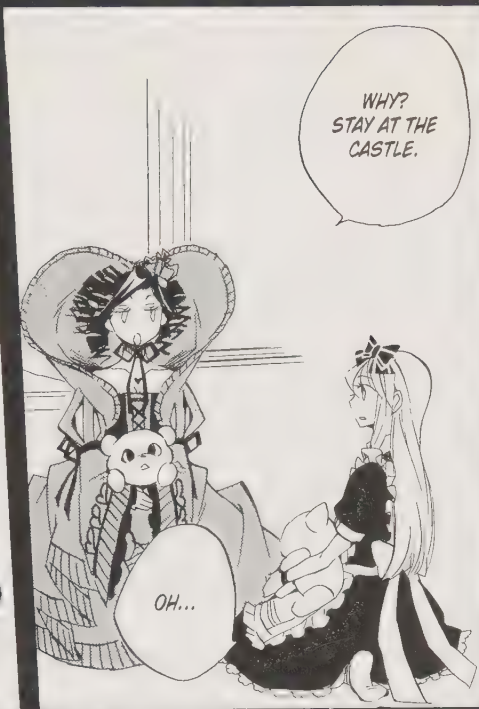


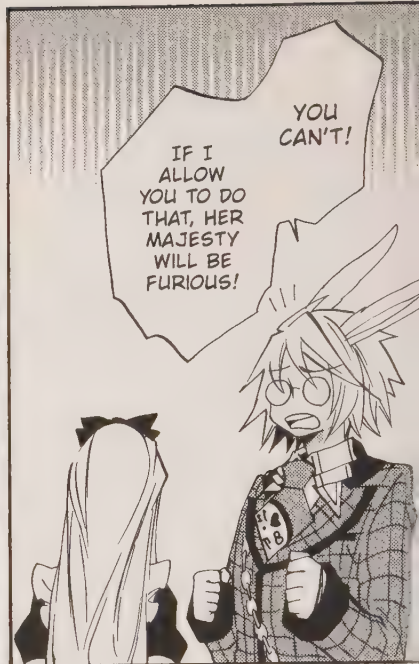
IT FEELS AS IF I'M ONLY GETTING MORE AND MORE CONFUSED...

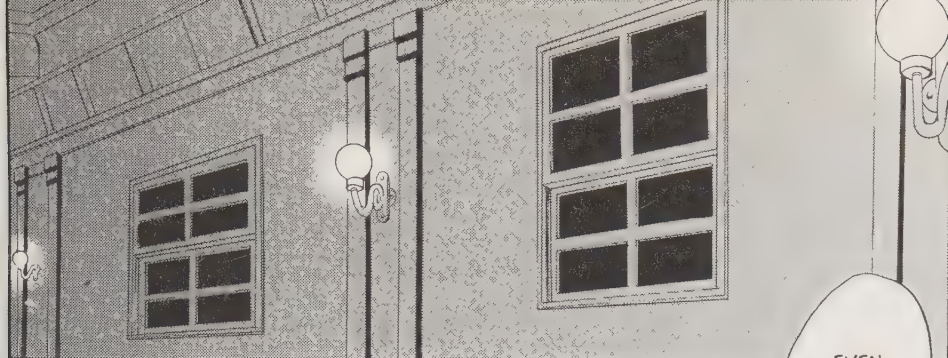




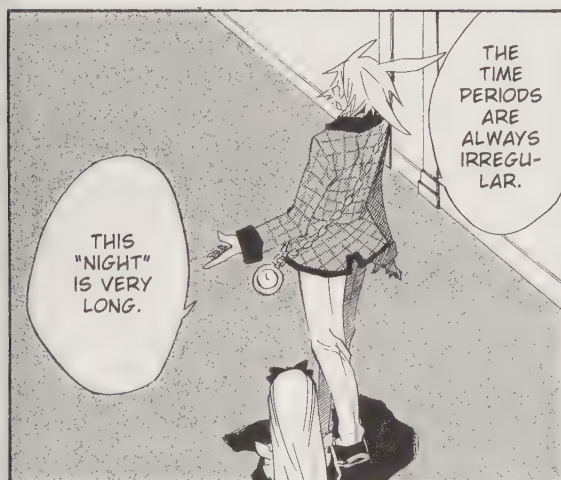








EVEN
SO...

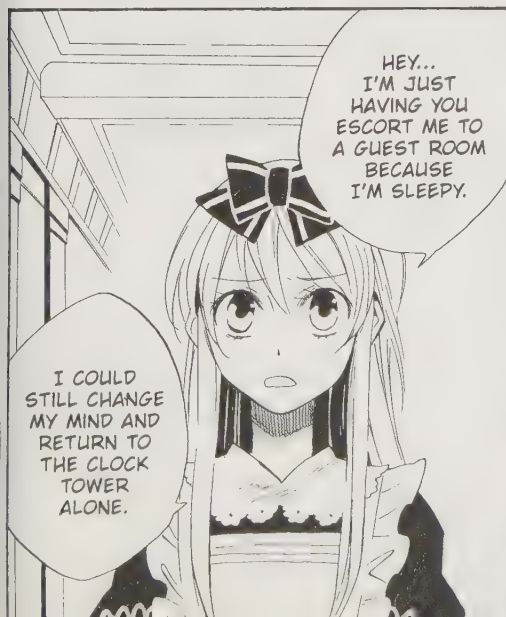


THIS
"NIGHT"
IS VERY
LONG.

THE
TIME
PERIODS
ARE
ALWAYS
IRREGU-
LAR.



...I DIDN'T
THINK THE
NIGHT
WOULD
LAST THIS
LONG.

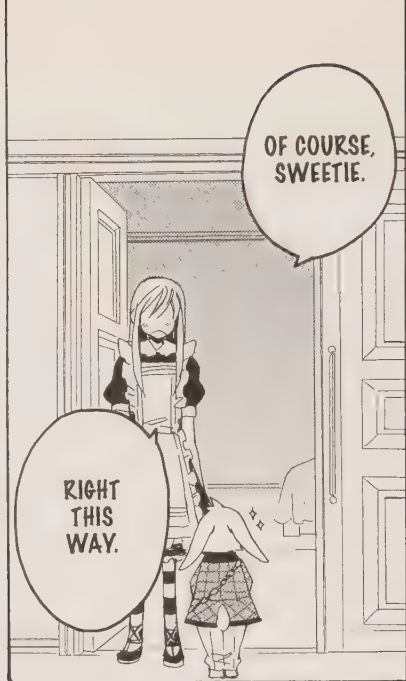


I COULD
STILL CHANGE
MY MIND AND
RETURN TO
THE CLOCK
TOWER
ALONE.

HEY...
I'M JUST
HAVING YOU
ESCORT ME TO
A GUEST ROOM
BECAUSE
I'M SLEEPY.



BUT THANKS
TO THAT, I AM
ABLE TO SPEND
TIME WITH ALICE
LIKE THIS!



OF COURSE,
SWEETIE.

RIGHT
THIS
WAY.



AAAAALICE.

MAY I
SLEEP WITH
YOOOOU?



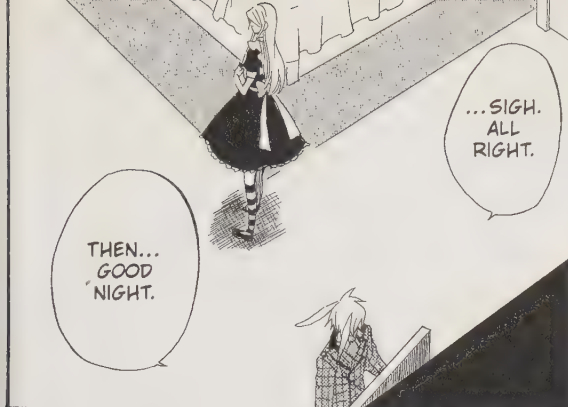
I DON'T
KNOW WHY
YOU EVER
TURN BACK
INTO A
MAN.

THIS
FORM IS
ACTUALLY
QUITE
TROUBLE-
SOME AT
TIMES.

CUTE
WIDDLE
BUNNY...

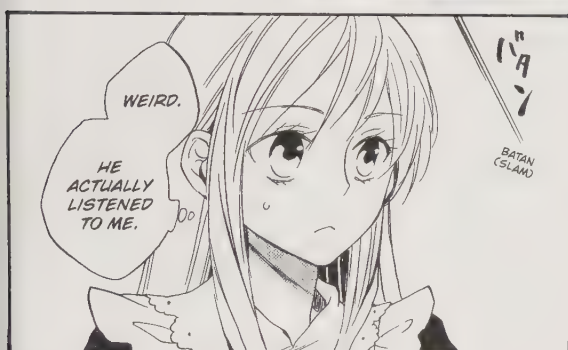


CHOKON
(PLOP)



THEN...
GOOD
NIGHT.

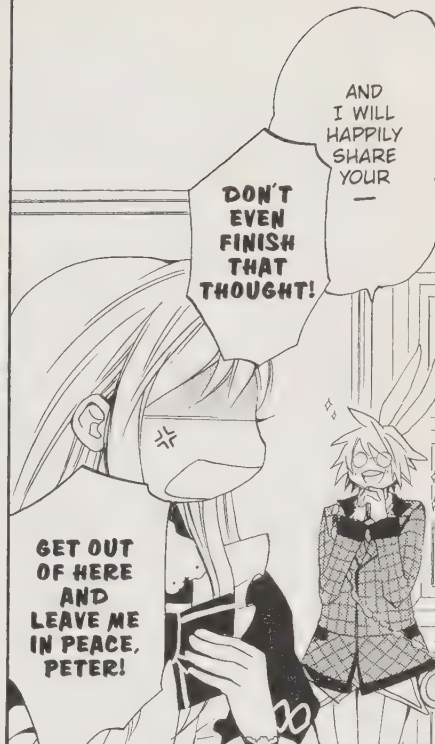
...SIGH.
ALL
RIGHT.



WEIRD.

HE
ACTUALLY
LISTENED
TO ME.

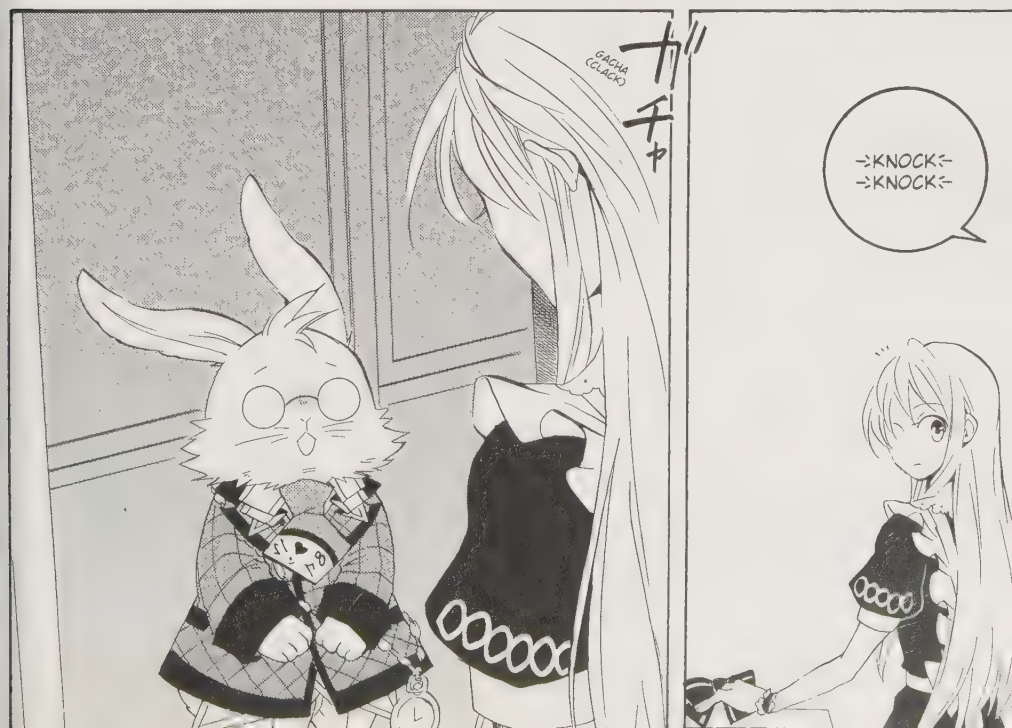
BATAN
(ISLAND)



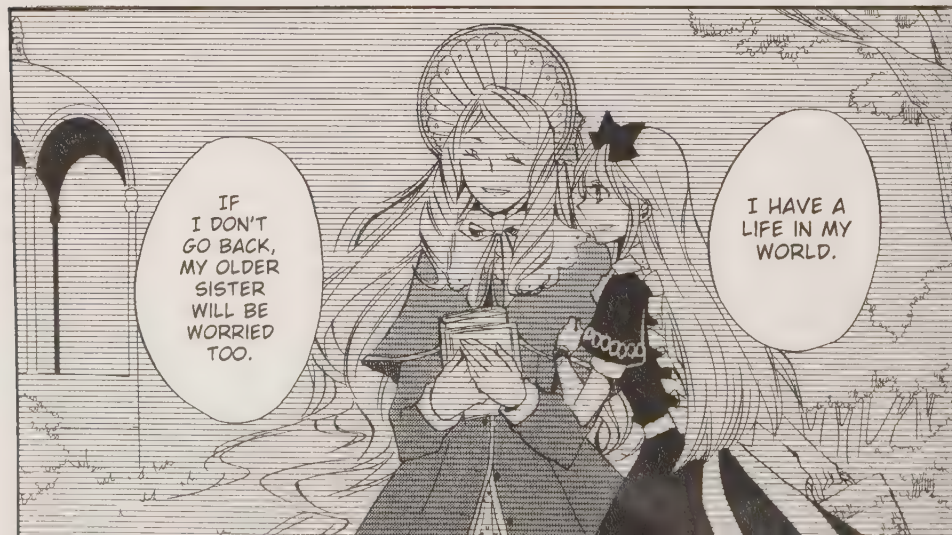
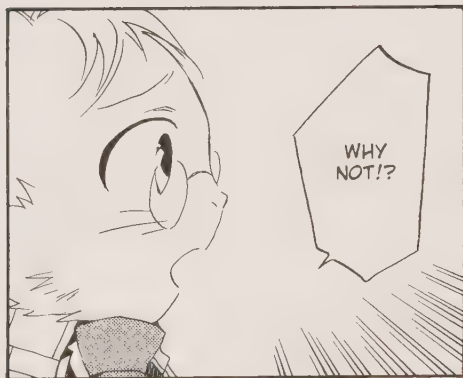
DON'T
EVEN
FINISH
THAT
THOUGHT!

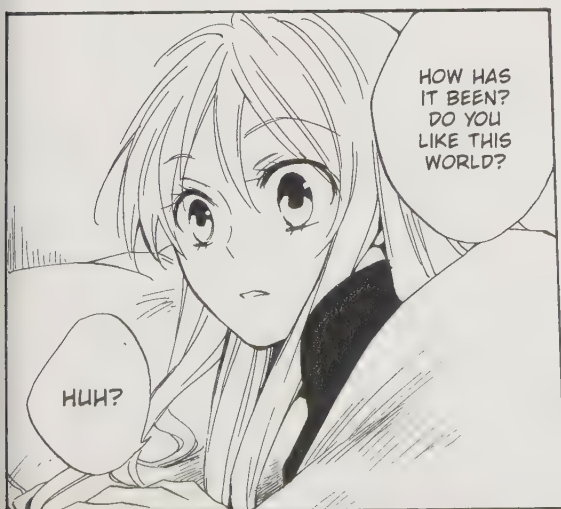
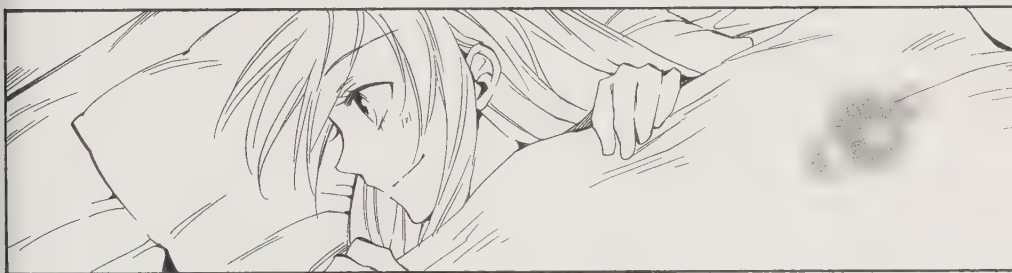
AND
I WILL
HAPPILY
SHARE
YOUR
—

GET OUT
OF HERE
AND
LEAVE ME
IN PEACE,
PETER!



→KNOCK→
→KNOCK→

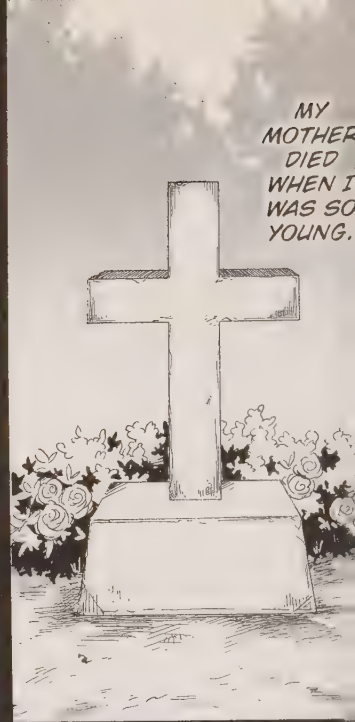






MY
YOUNGER
SISTER
EDITH
CALLED ME
COLD WHEN
I DIDN'T
CRY AT MY
MOTHER'S
FUNERAL.

MY FATHER,
WHO
ADORED MY
MOTHER,
BURIED
HIMSELF IN
HIS WORK
TO DEAL
WITH HIS
PAIN.



MY
MOTHER
DIED
WHEN I
WAS SO
YOUNG.



ALICE.

MY OLDER
SISTER
LORINA
WAS THE
ONLY ONE
WHO —



BACK
TO MY
WORLD...
TO MY
SISTER...



I...
I DON'T
WANT YOU
TO GO.



ALICE?



YOU
CAN'T GO
HOME.

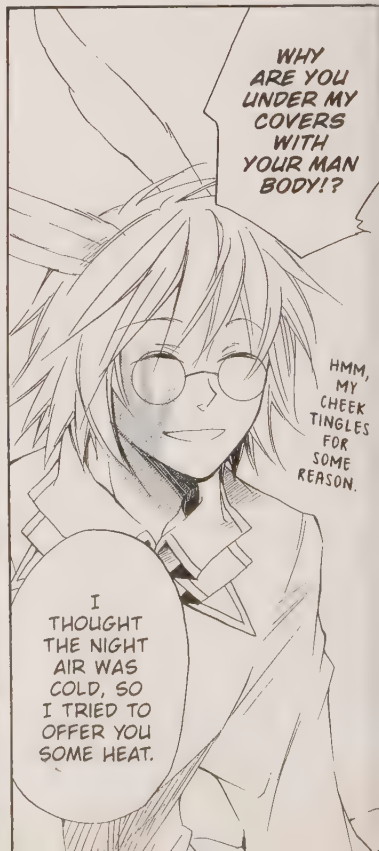
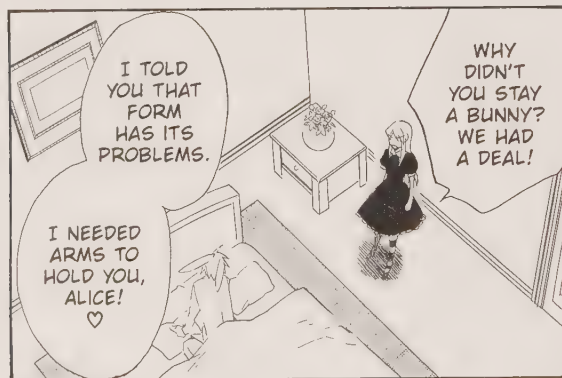
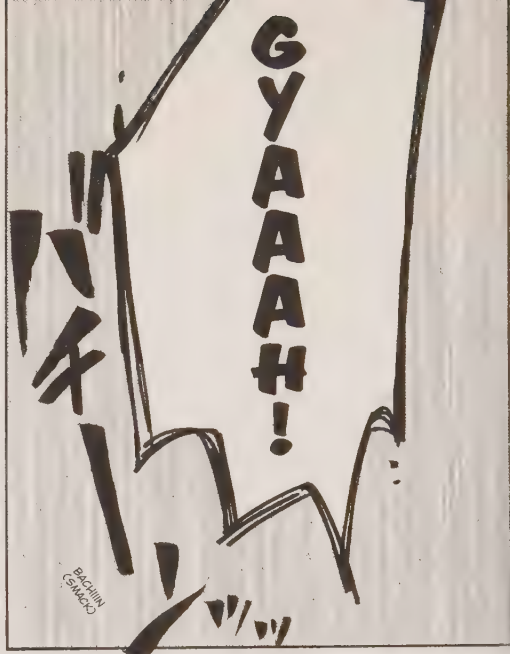
ACTUALLY,
SHE'S
PROBABLY
THE ONLY ONE
WHO WOULD
WORRY IF I
DISAPPEARED.

SHE'S
SO
KIND.

SO I
HAVE
TO GO
HOME.

I DON'T
WANT TO
MAKE
HER
SAD.

GO
HOME,
HUH?



...HUH?

IT'S
SO
WARM

...

FUWA
(FWSH)

17

IS IT
PETER?

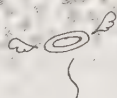
OH RIGHT,
HIS RABBIT
FUR IS
PROBABLY...

—HUH?

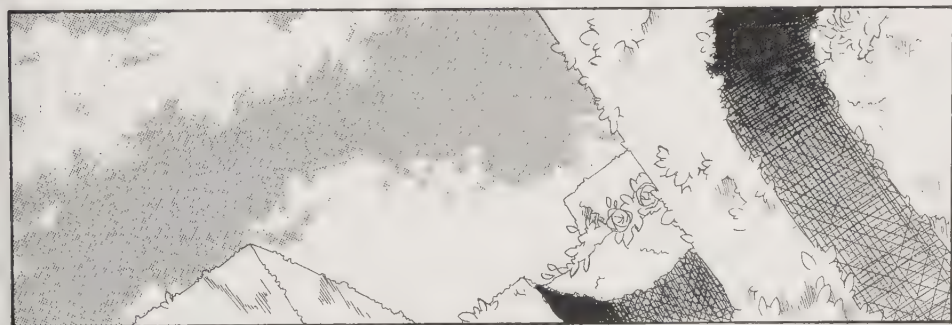
GYO
(GAPE)



I HOPE
YOU NEVER
WAKE UP,
JERK!



AL...
ICE...

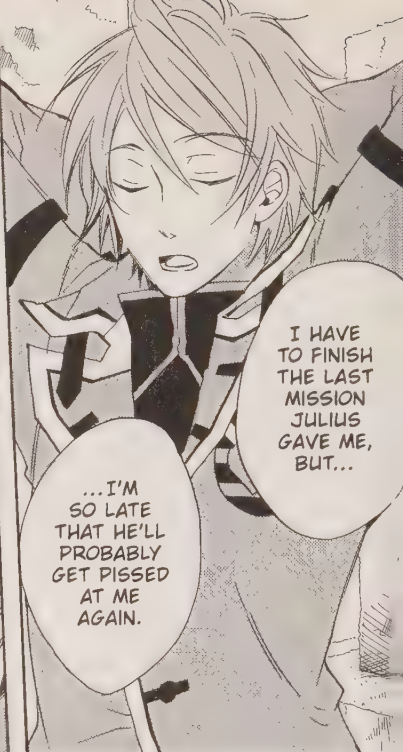


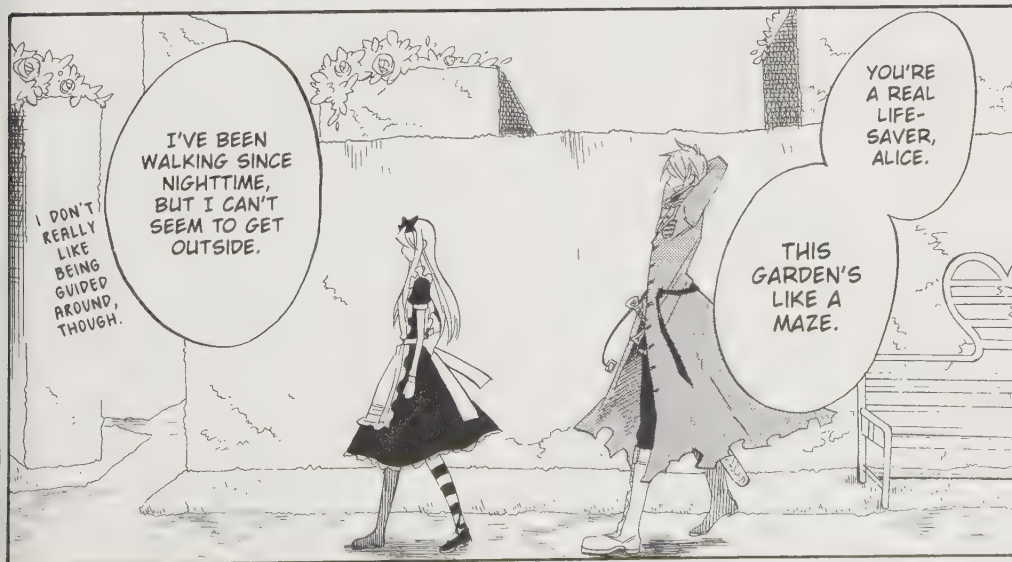
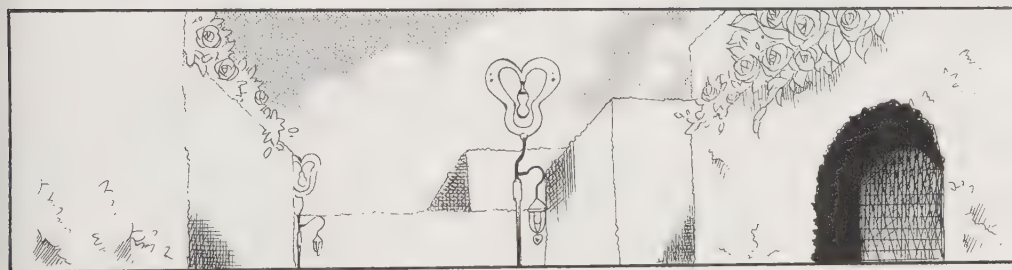
HUH?



UGH.

HE'S THE
WORST!



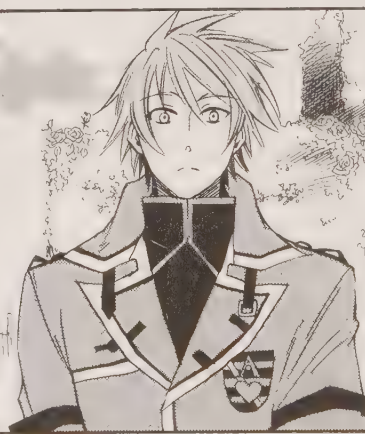




...BUT I
STILL WISH
EVERYONE
DIDN'T
TREAT
LIFE SO
CHEAPLY.

BUT IT
BOTHERS
ME.

I
KNOW
THE
HEARTS
CAN BE
FIXED...



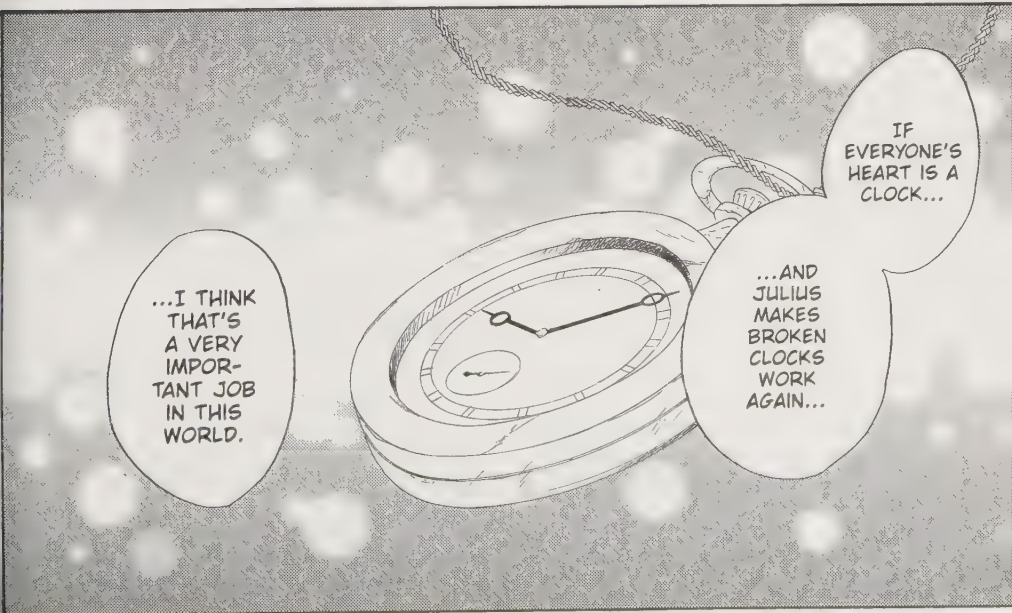
YOU
SOMETIMES
HAVE TO
KILL PEOPLE
TO GET
TO THEM,
RIGHT?

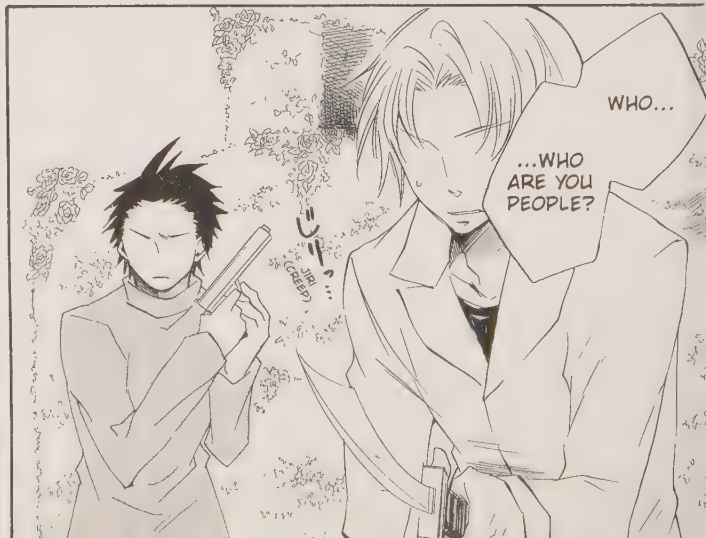
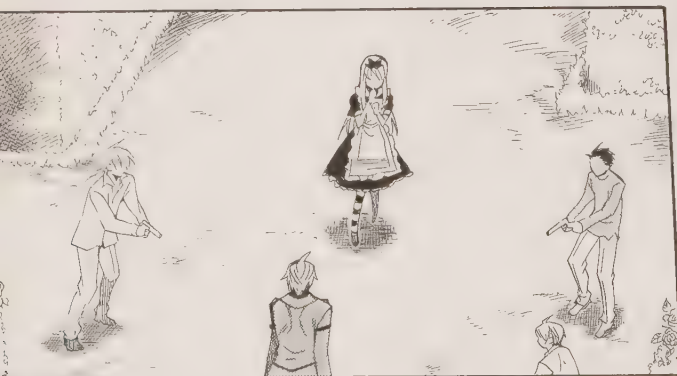
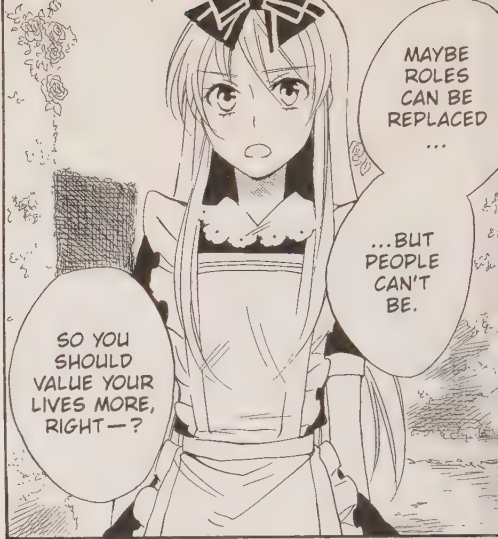
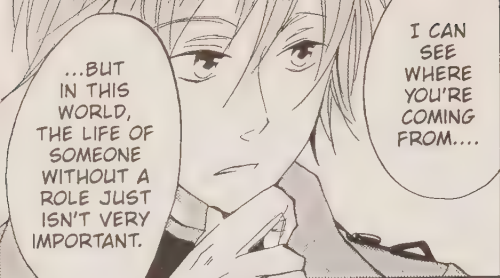
I KNOW
YOU
COLLECT
CLOCKS,
ACE.



...RIGHT.

SOME-
TIMES.







THAT
DOESN'T
MEAN YOU
HAVE TO
KILL!



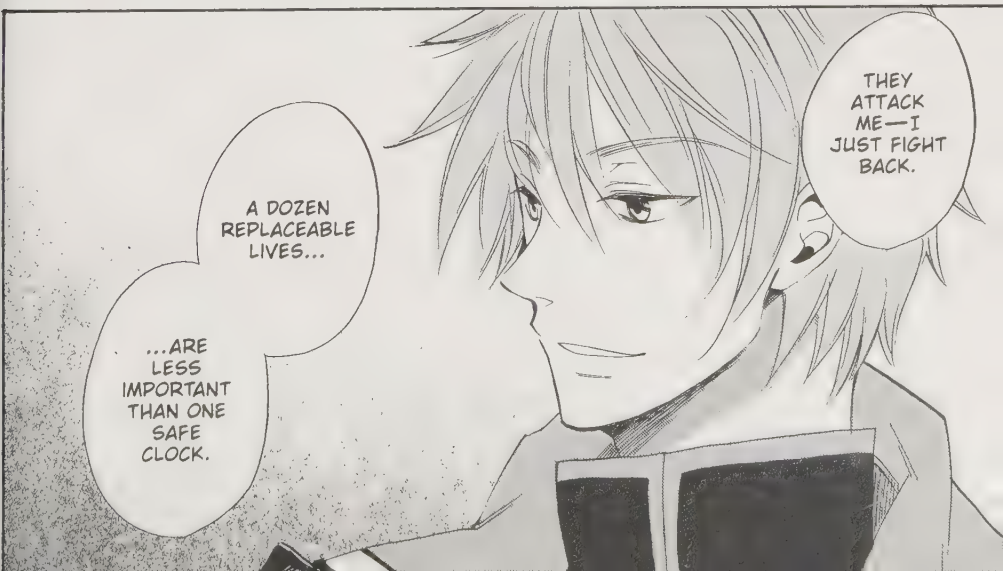
BUT
I CAN'T
HELP
IT.

I CAN'T
LET THOSE
CLOCKS GET
DESTROYED,
RIGHT?



AND
I HAVE
TO PROTECT
MYSELF TOO,
DON'T I?

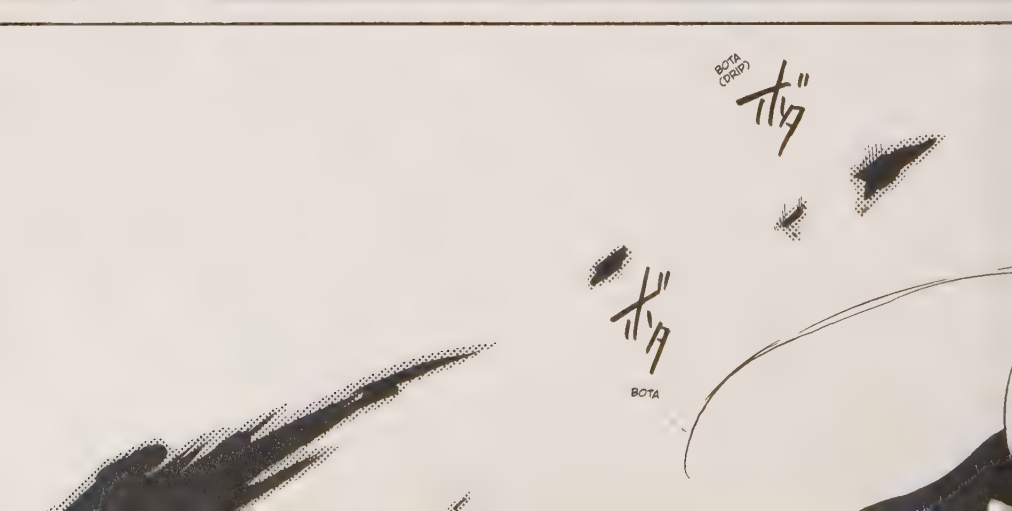
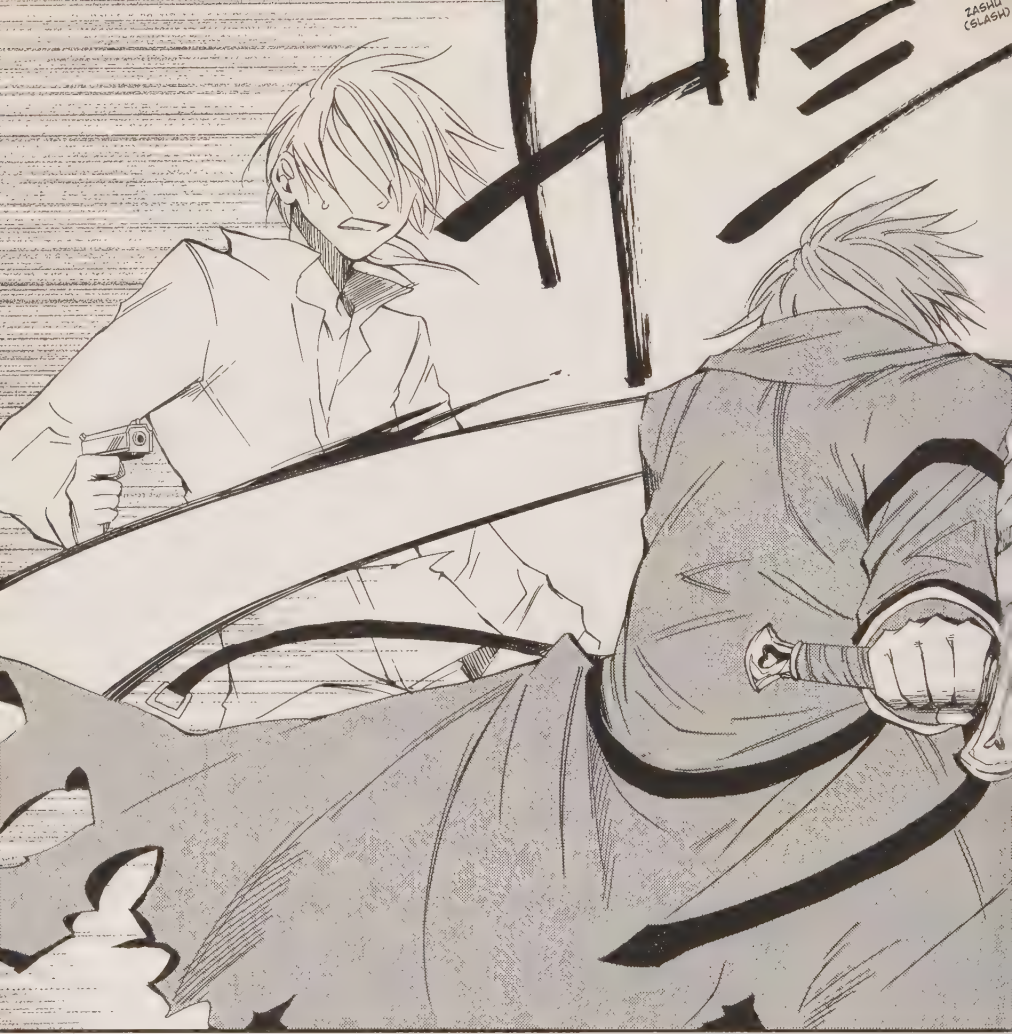
IF I LET
THEM LIVE,
THEY COULD
TRY AGAIN
LATER.

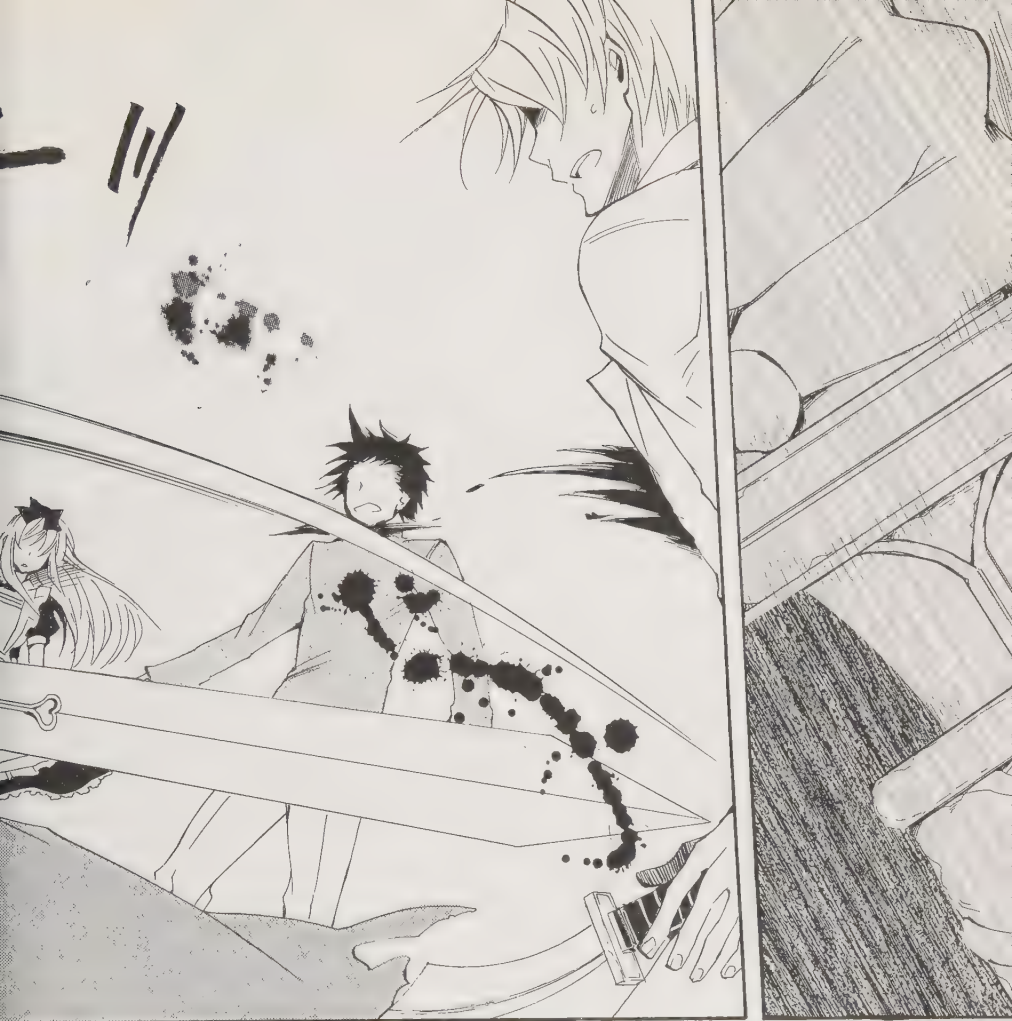


A DOZEN
REPLACEABLE
LIVES...

...ARE
LESS
IMPORTANT
THAN ONE
SAFE
CLOCK.

THEY
ATTACK
ME—I
JUST FIGHT
BACK.







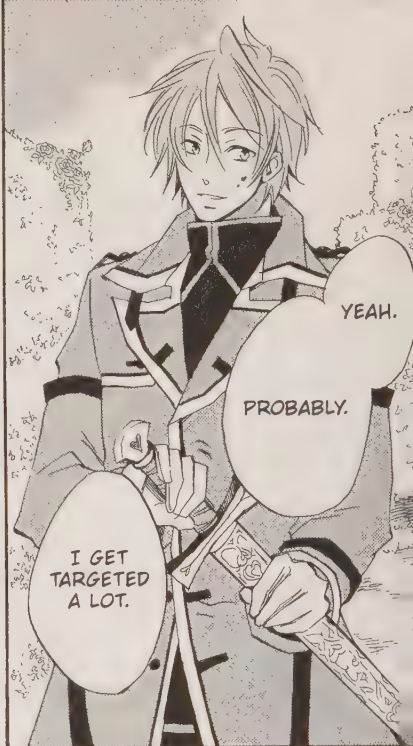
BUT IT'S
USUALLY
PETER WHO
PUTS THEM
ON MY
TRAIL.

ISN'T
THAT
RIGHT?



STOP
IT, ACE!
LEAVE
HIM
ALONE!

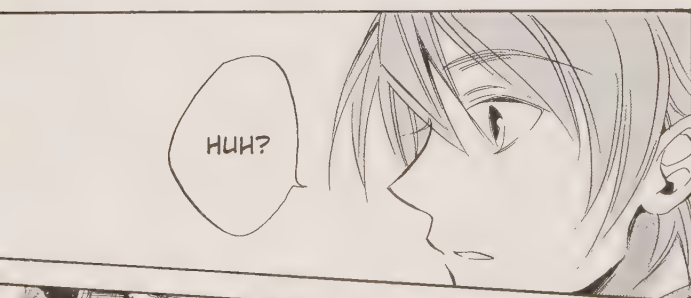
PETER
MUST
REALLY
HATE MY
GUTS.



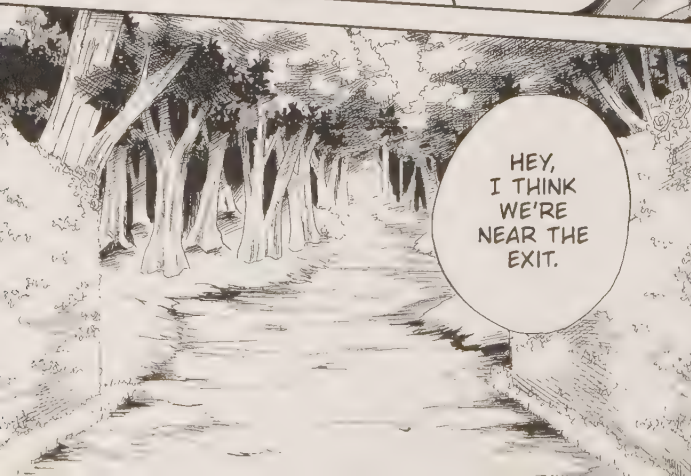
YEAH.

PROBABLY.

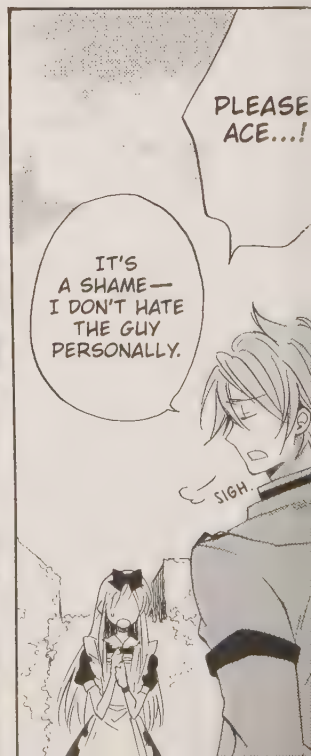
I GET
TARGETED
A LOT.



HUH?

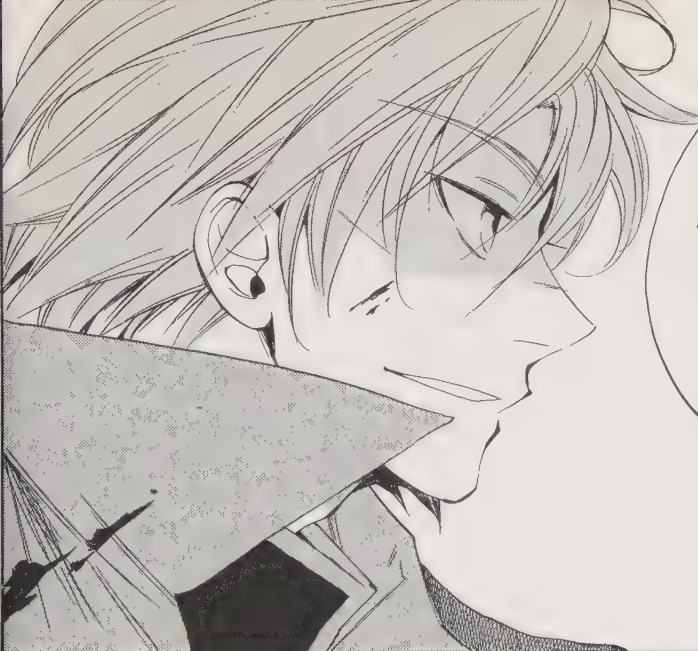


HEY,
I THINK
WE'RE
NEAR THE
EXIT.

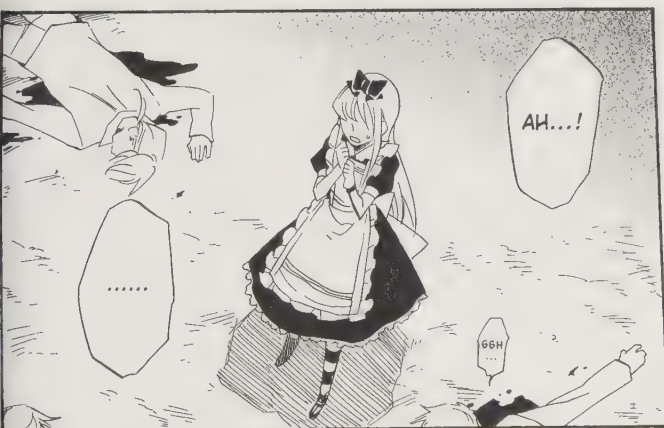


PLEASE
ACE...!

IT'S
A SHAME—
I DON'T HATE
THE GUY
PERSONALLY.

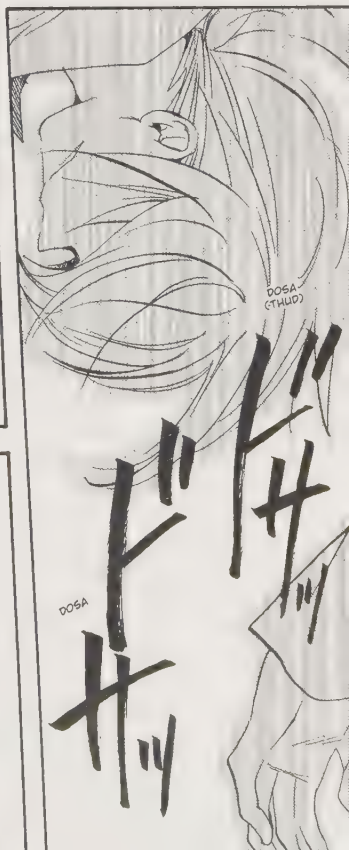


YOUR
SWEET
SENTIMENTS
JUST MIGHT
GET YOU
KILLED IN
THIS WORLD,
ALICE.

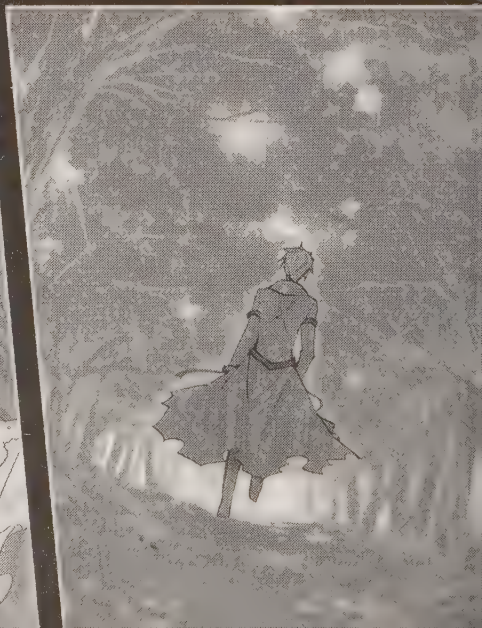


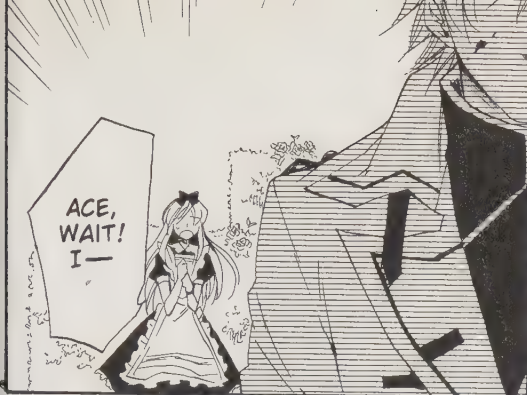
WAS IT
YOU...?

TH-THE
CORPSES
AROUND
THE
CASTLE!



YOUR SWEET
SENTIMENTS
JUST MIGHT GET
YOU KILLED IN
THIS WORLD,
ALICE.

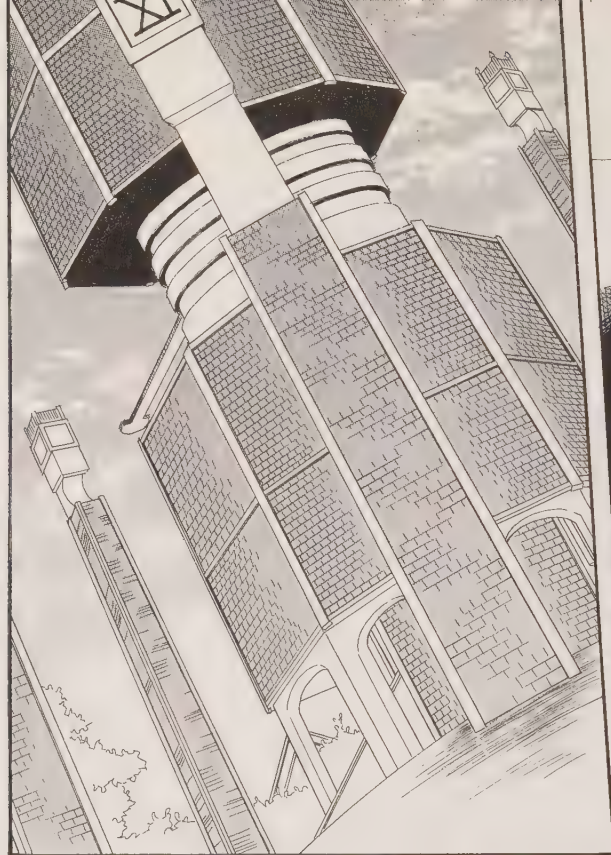




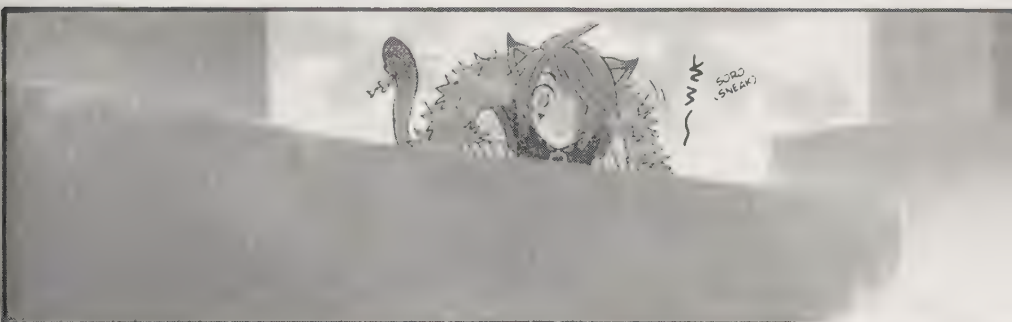




♥17 Declaration



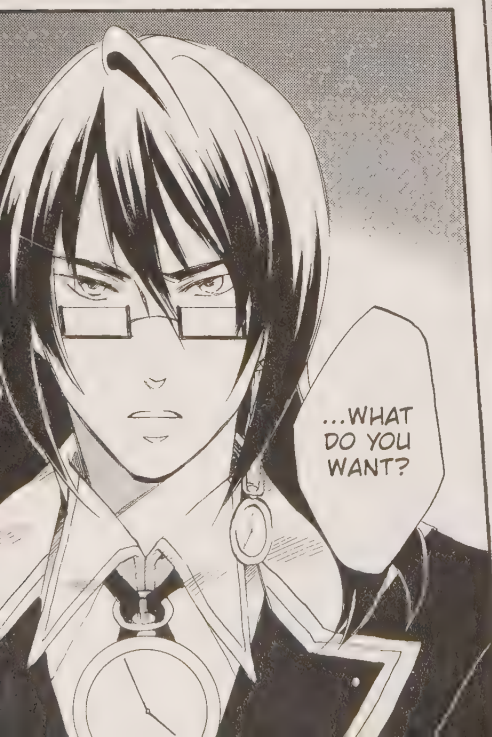
...HMMM.



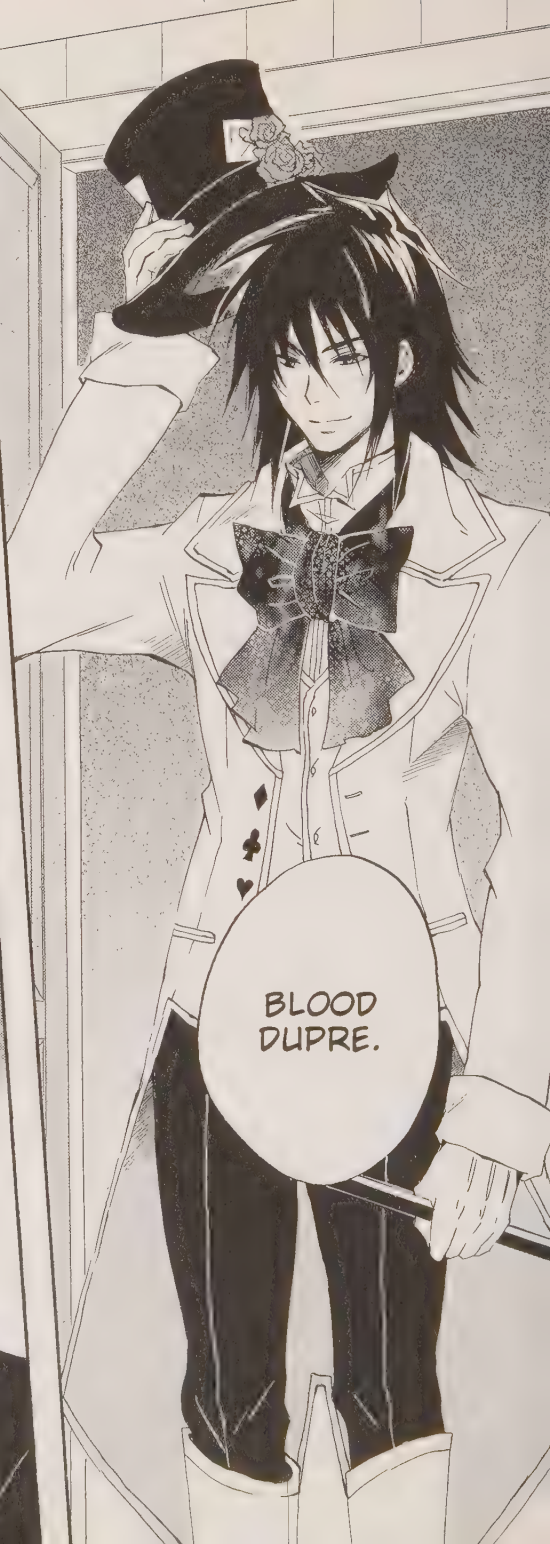


HELLO,
CLOCK
MAKER.

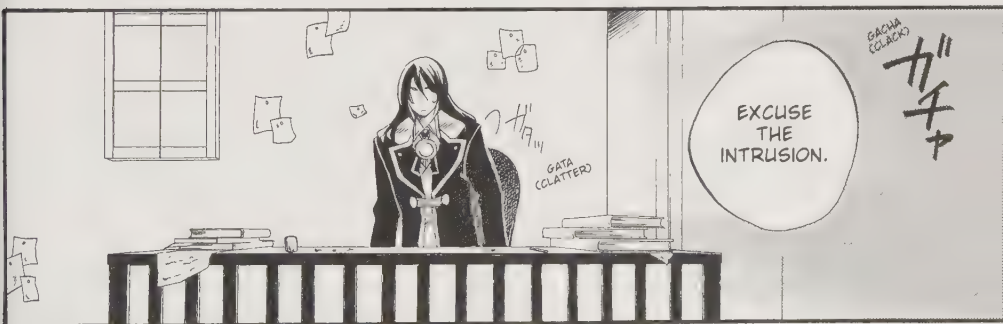
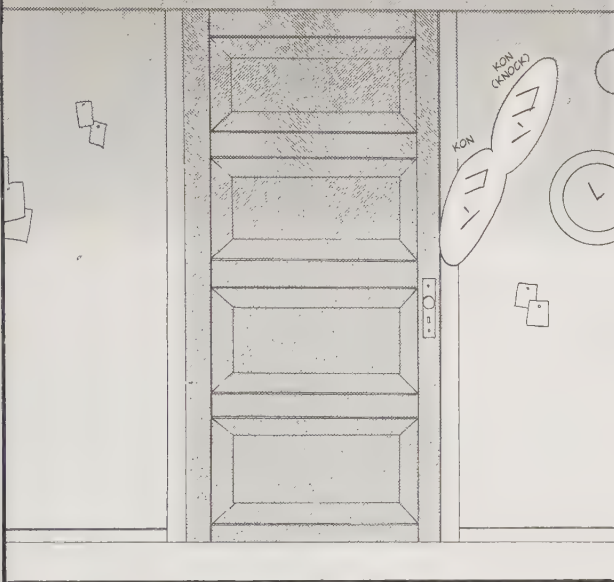
YOU LOOK
BUSY AS
EVER.

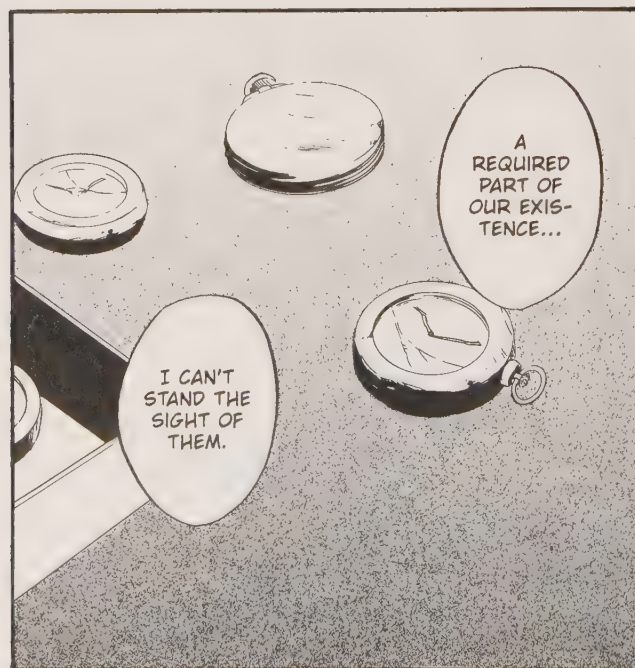
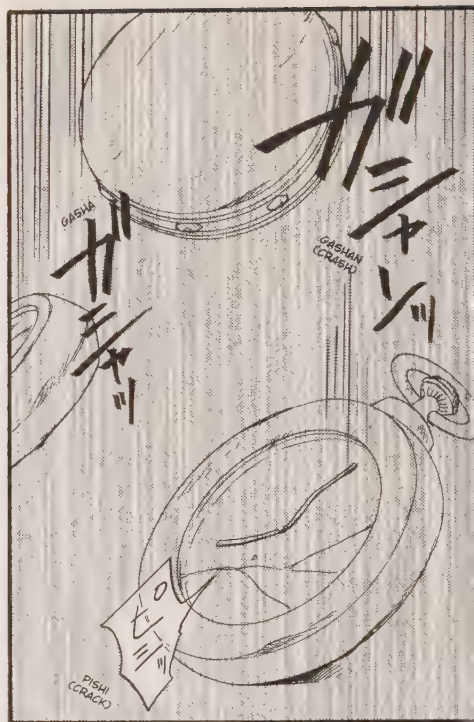


...WHAT
DO YOU
WANT?



BLOOD
DUPRE.

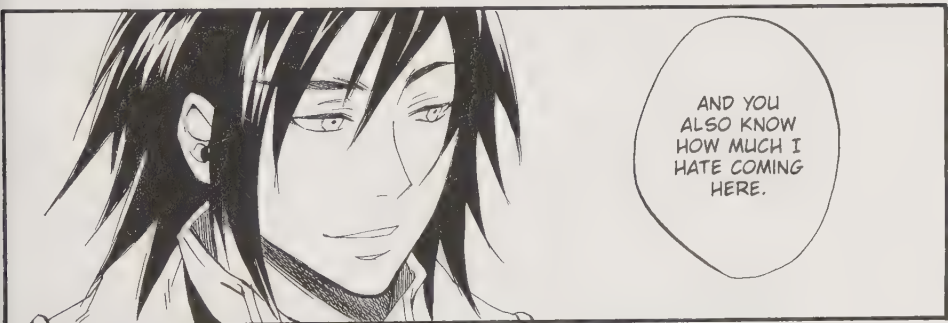




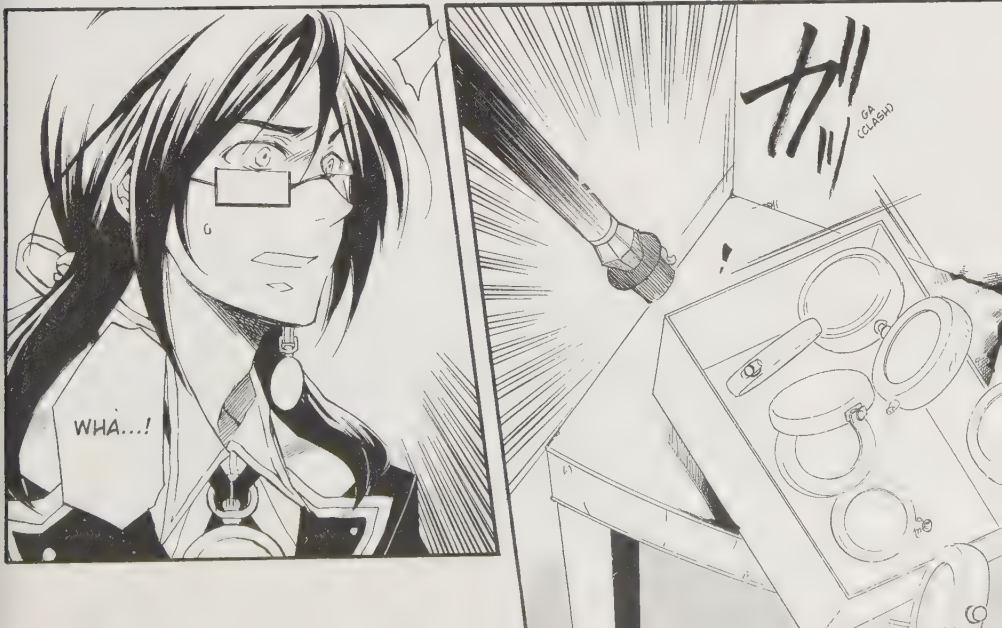


YOU
KNEW
WE'D HAVE
TO MEET
SOONER OR
LATER.

COME ON,
DON'T
MAKE SUCH
A SCARY
FACE.

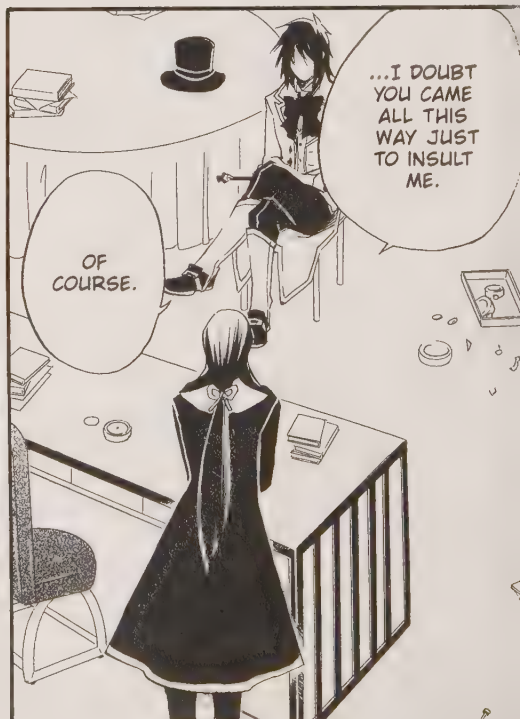
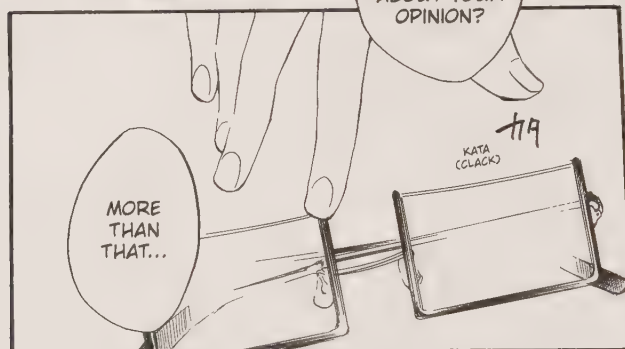


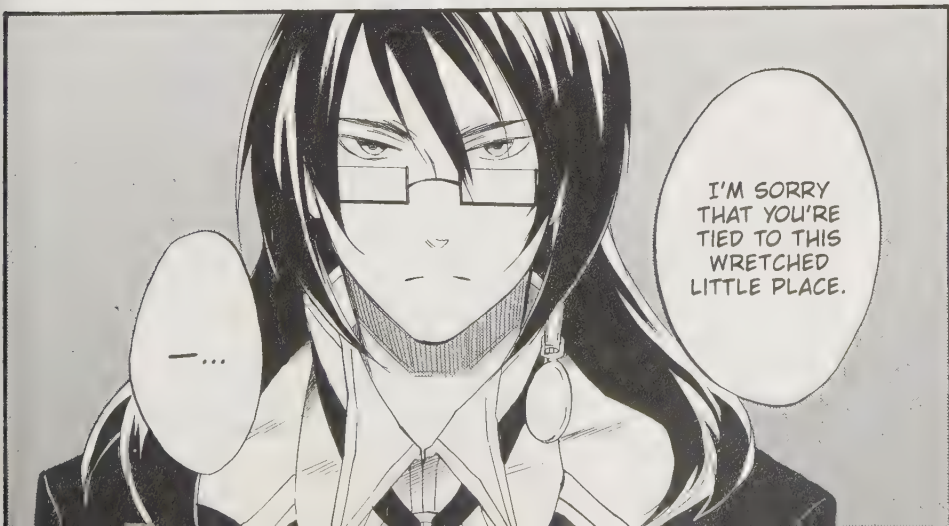
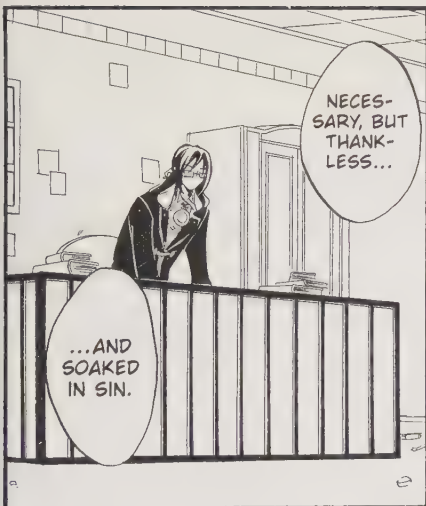
AND YOU
ALSO KNOW
HOW MUCH I
HATE COMING
HERE.



WHÁ...!

GA
(CLASH)







OH...

WHAT...!?

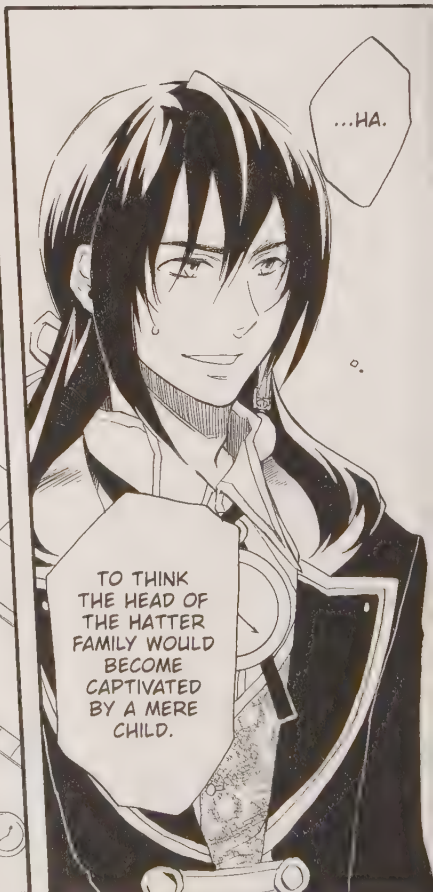
THEN I
GUESS YOU'RE
SURPRISED?
I THOUGHT
YOU SAW THIS
COMING.



YOU'RE
ONE TO
TALK.

NO ONE
EXPECTED
YOU TO
WELCOME
A HOUSE-
GUEST.

...BUT
YOU
ALREADY
KNOW,
DON'T
YOU?



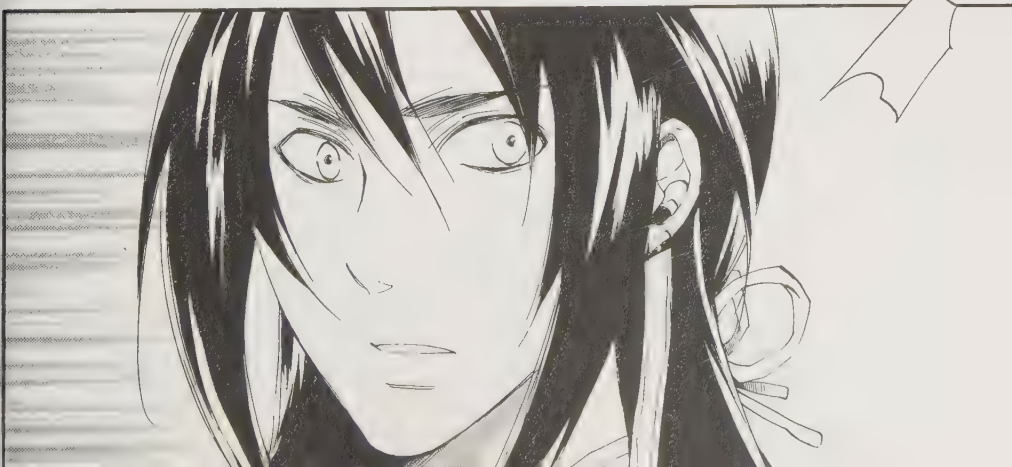
...HA.

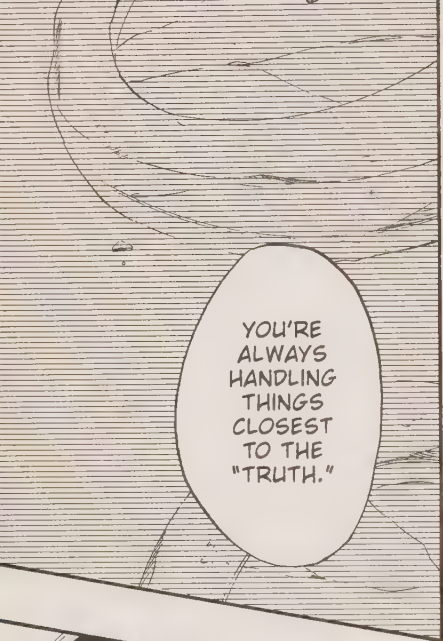
TO THINK
THE HEAD OF
THE HATTER
FAMILY WOULD
BECOME
CAPTIVATED
BY A MERE
CHILD.



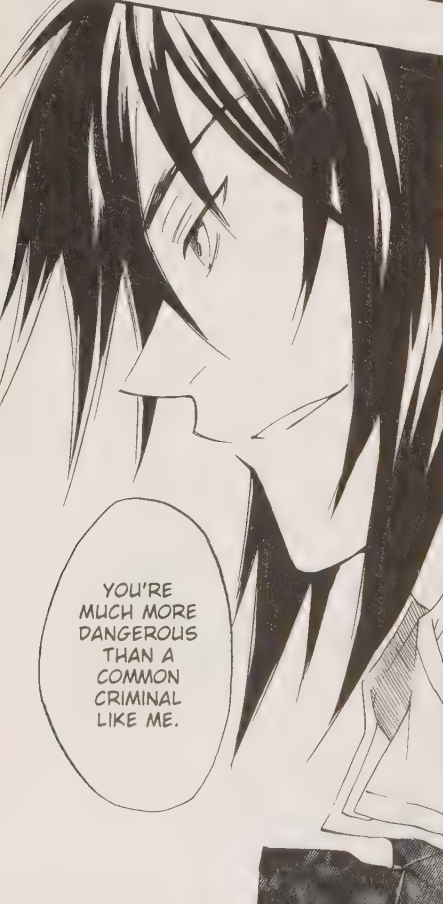
I WANT
ALICE.
NAMELY,
IN MY
MANSION.

I'M
TAKING
HER FROM
YOU.

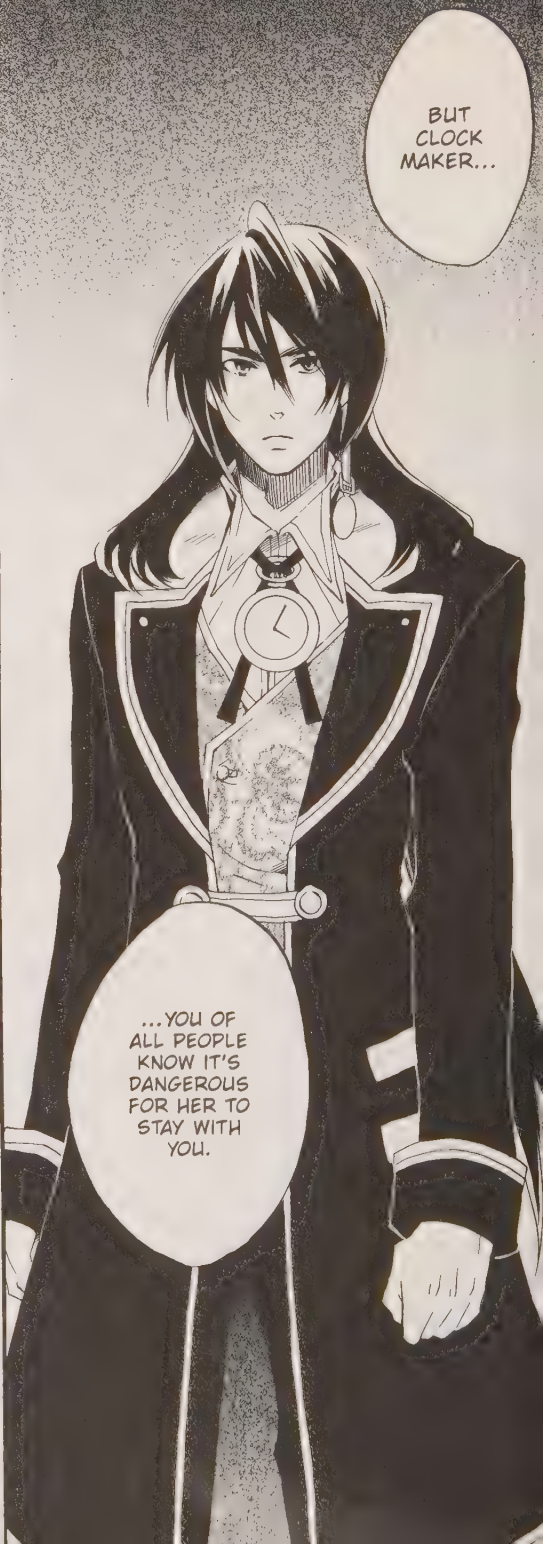




YOU'RE
ALWAYS
HANDLING
THINGS
CLOSEST
TO THE
"TRUTH."



YOU'RE
MUCH MORE
DANGEROUS
THAN A
COMMON
CRIMINAL
LIKE ME.



BUT
CLOCK
MAKER...

...YOU OF
ALL PEOPLE
KNOW IT'S
DANGEROUS
FOR HER TO
STAY WITH
YOU.

OUTSIDERS
ARE LOVED BY
THE PEOPLE IN
THIS WORLD.

AND
NOT JUST
BECAUSE
THEY'RE
RARE.

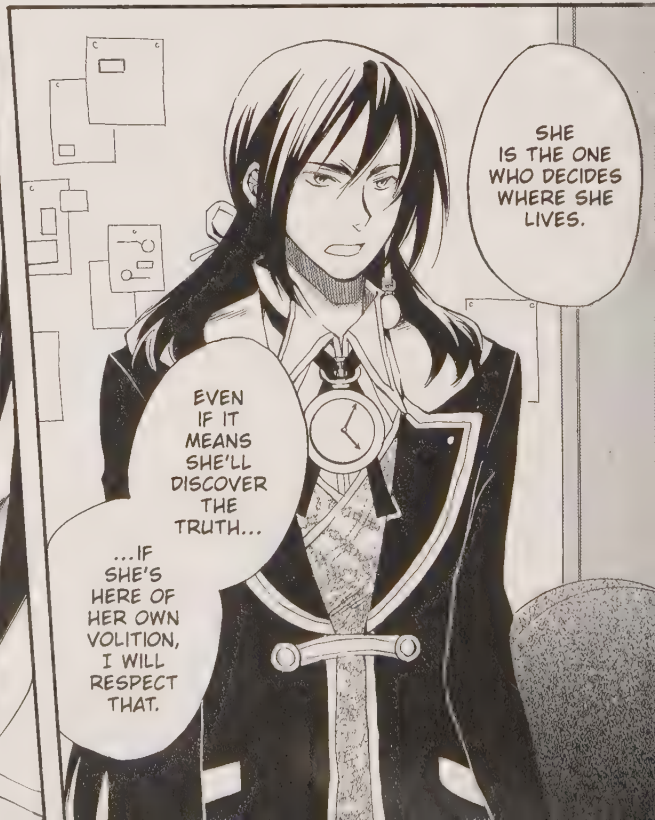
THEY'RE
ONLY ABLE
TO COME TO
THIS WORLD
IF THEY HAVE
THOSE
ATTRIBUTES
THAT WILL
MAKE US FALL
IN LOVE.

THAT'S
WHAT
THEY SAY
ANYWAY.

IF IT'S
TRUE, IT'S A
MATTER OF
COURSE THAT
WE'RE BOTH
ATTRACTED
TO HER.



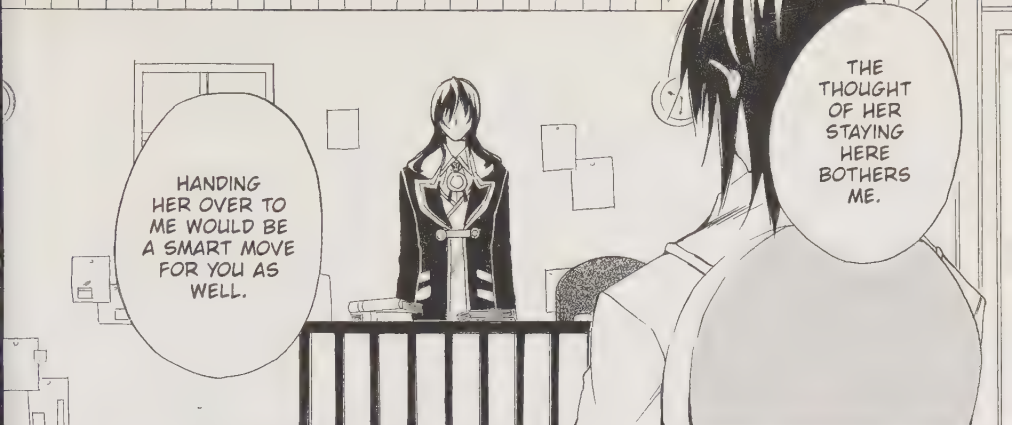
I
REFUSE.



SHE
IS THE ONE
WHO DECIDES
WHERE SHE
LIVES.

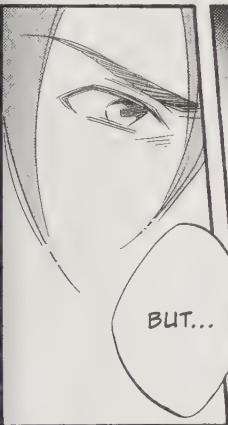
EVEN
IF IT
MEANS
SHE'LL
DISCOVER
THE
TRUTH...

...IF
SHE'S
HERE OF
HER OWN
VOLITION,
I WILL
RESPECT
THAT.



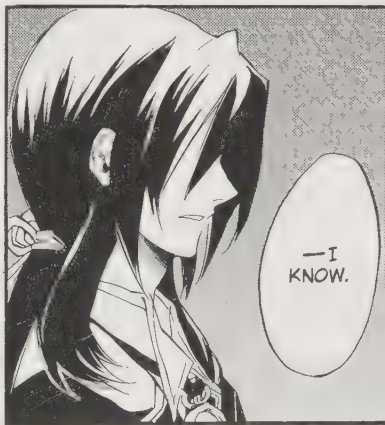
HANDING
HER OVER TO
ME WOULD BE
A SMART MOVE
FOR YOU AS
WELL.

THE
THOUGHT
OF HER
STAYING
HERE
BOTHERS
ME.



I MIGHT
END UP
HURTING
ALICE.

BUT...



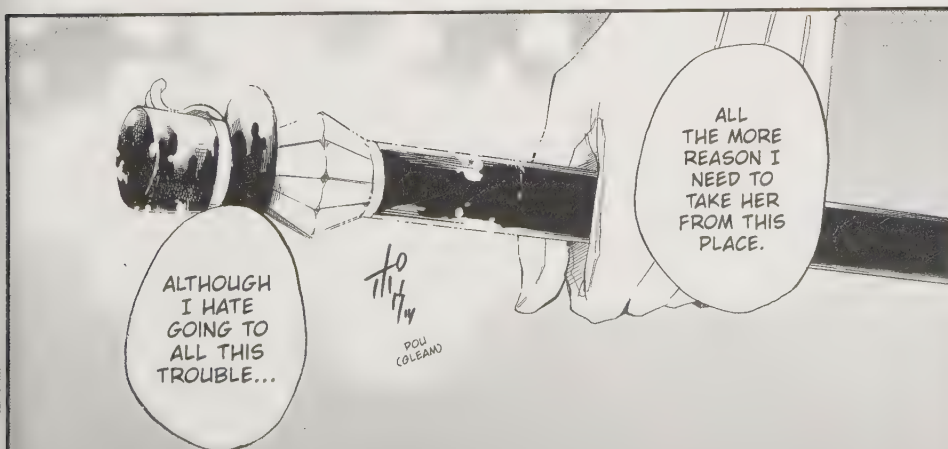
—I
KNOW.

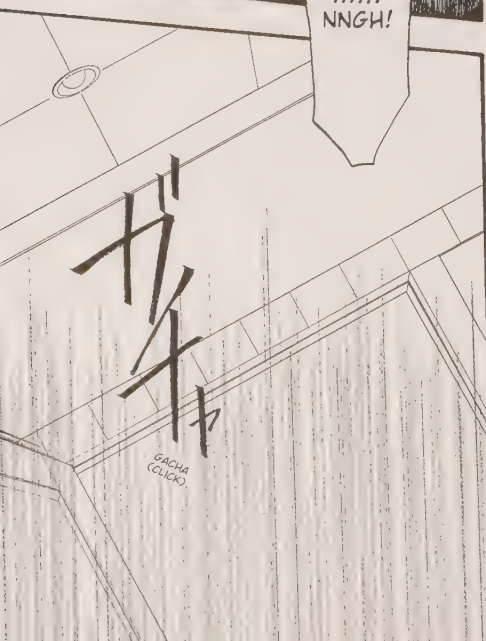
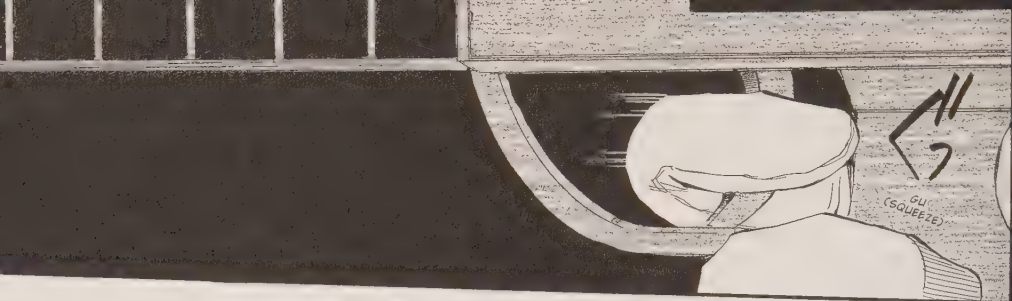


...I MUCH PREFER
WATCHING YOUR
MAGICAL WORK
ON CLOCKS THAN
THOSE VIOLENT
TRICKS.

THE
PEOPLE OF
THIS COUNTRY
CAN MAKE
FIREARMS LIKE
MAGIC, BUT...

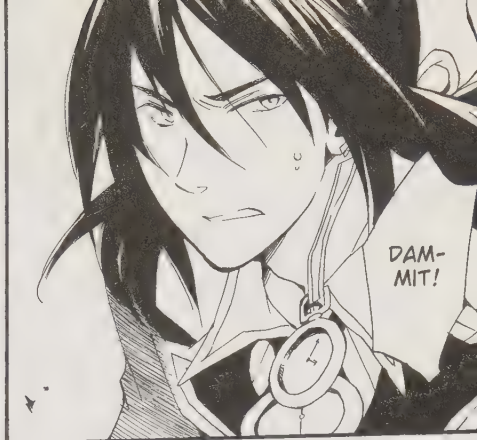
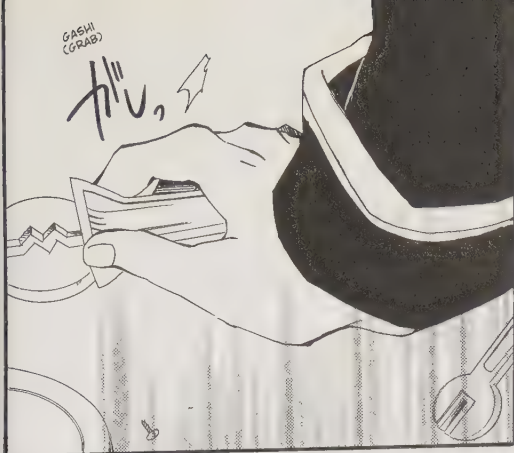






GASHI
(GRAB)

ガッ、



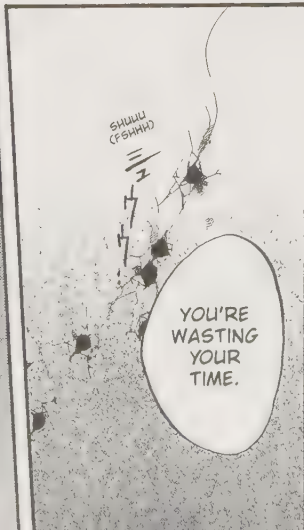
DAM-
MIT!



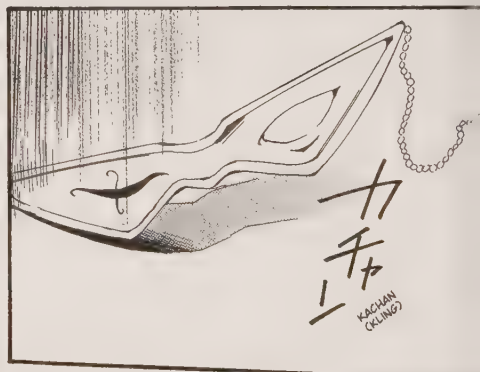
ス／＼
SHUN
(SWISH)

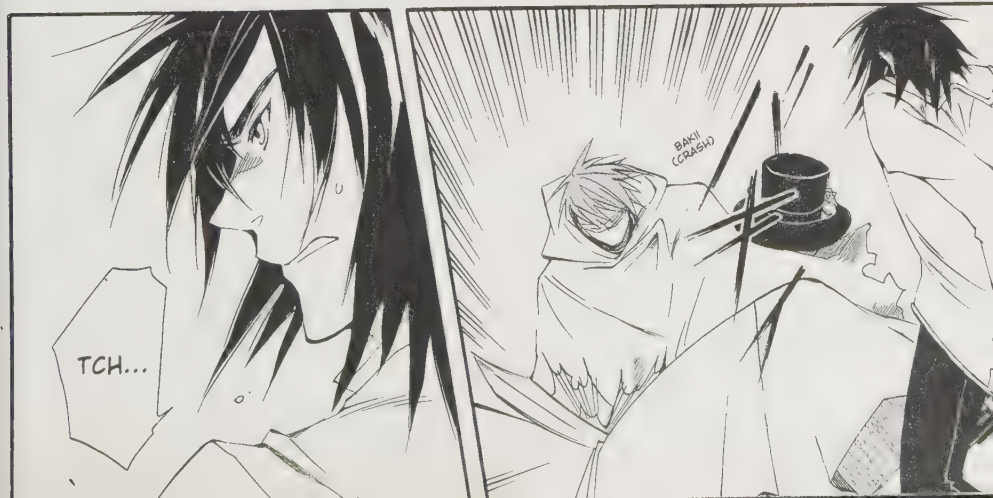
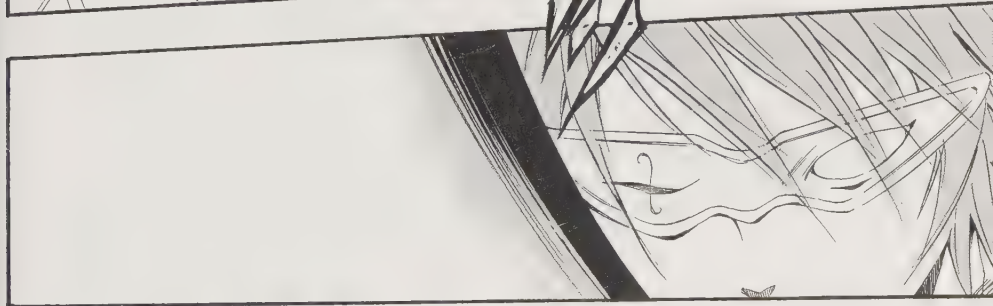


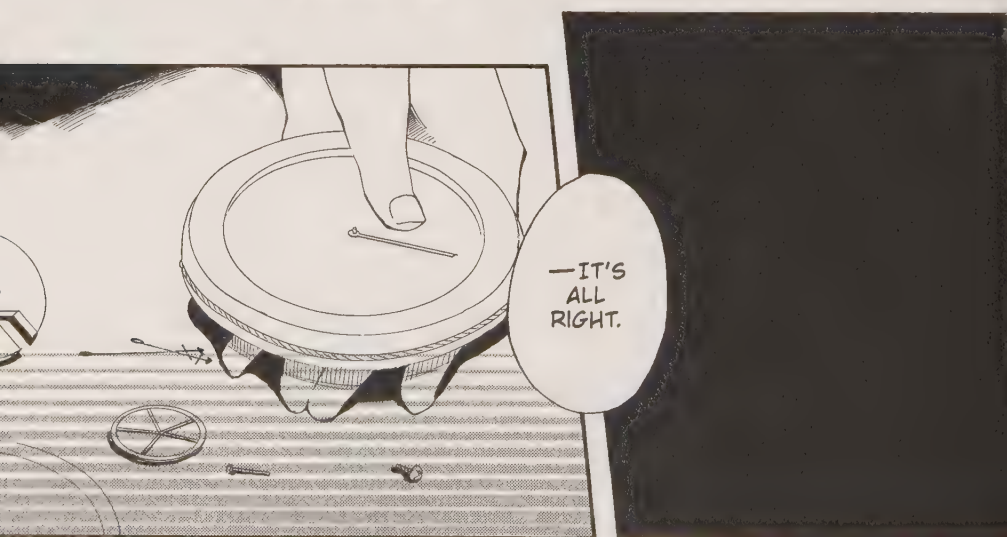
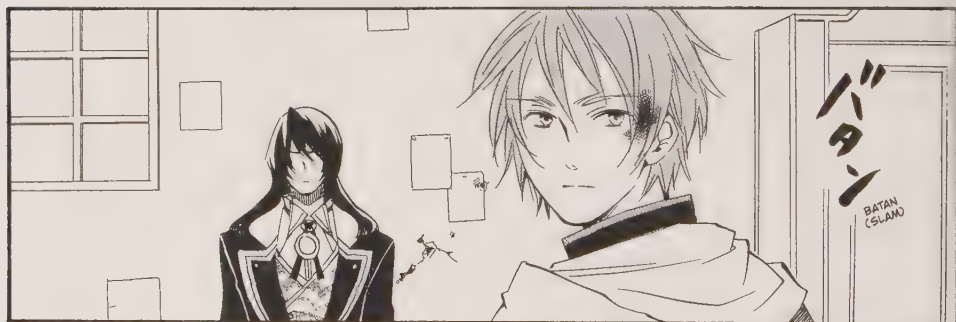
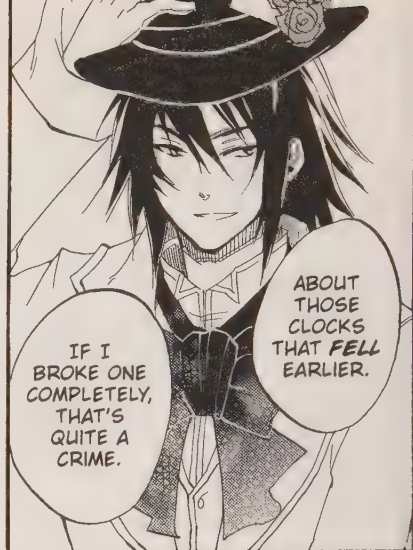
THERE'S
ONLY ONE
WAY THIS
CAN END.

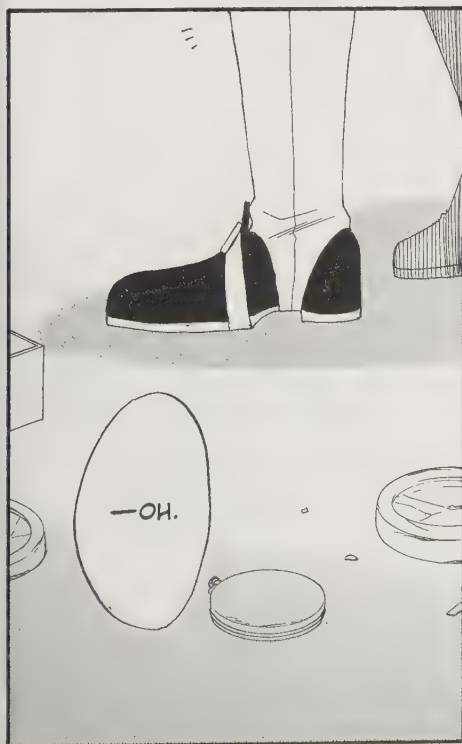
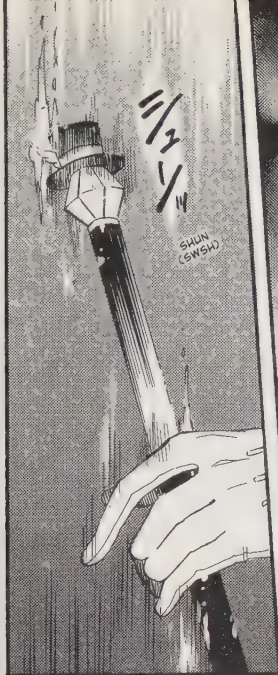


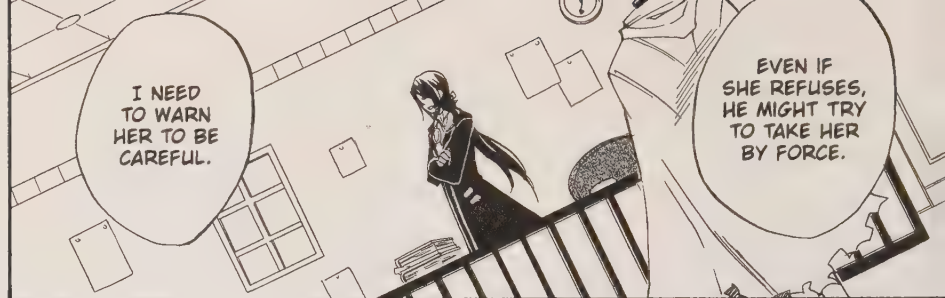
YOU'RE
WASTING
YOUR
TIME.





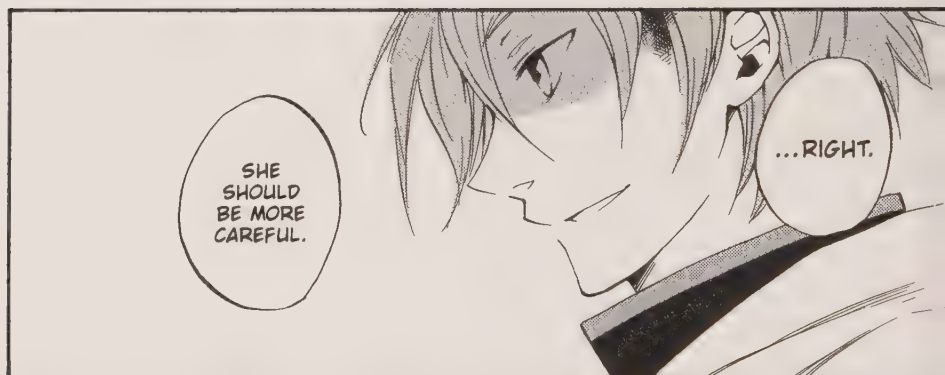






I NEED
TO WARN
HER TO BE
CAREFUL.

EVEN IF
SHE REFUSES,
HE MIGHT TRY
TO TAKE HER
BY FORCE.

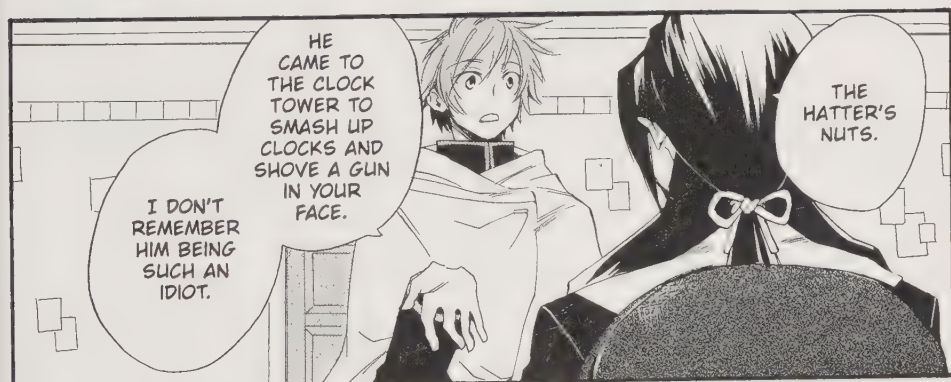
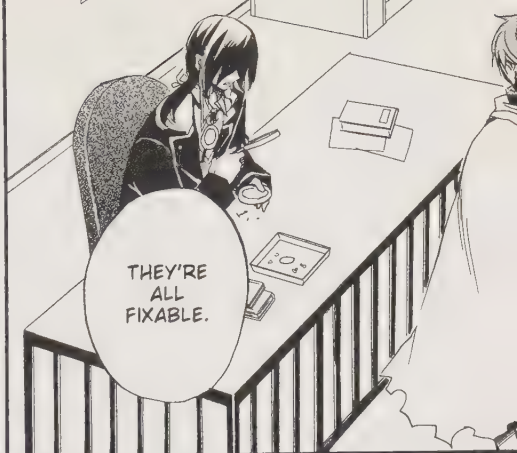
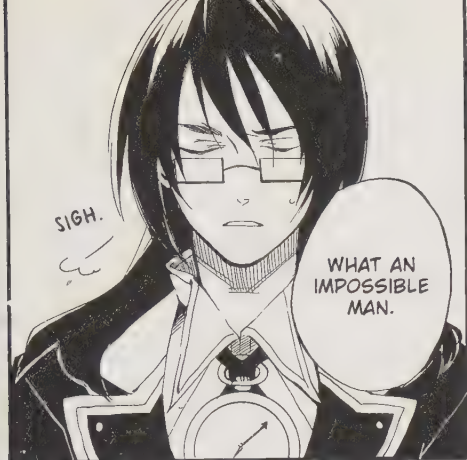


SHE
SHOULD
BE MORE
CAREFUL.

...RIGHT.



BECAUSE
EVERYONE
LOVES
PRECIOUS
ALICE,
RIGHT?

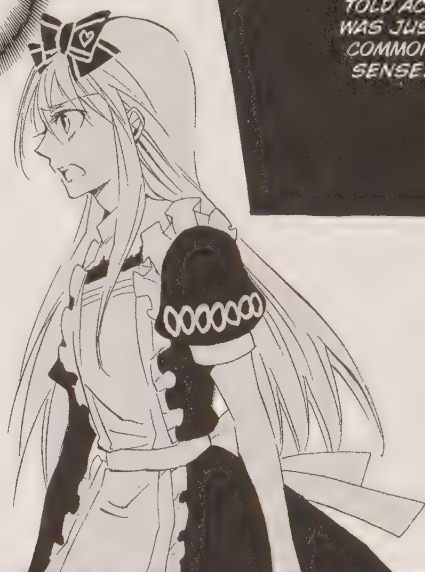


MAYBE
ROLES
CAN BE
REPLACED
...

...BUT
PEOPLE
CAN'T BE.

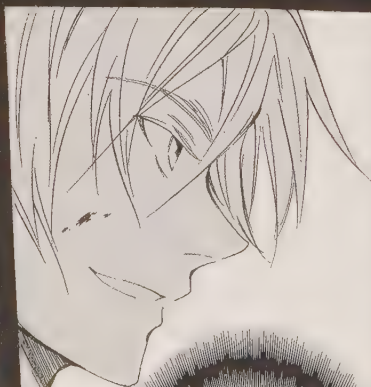
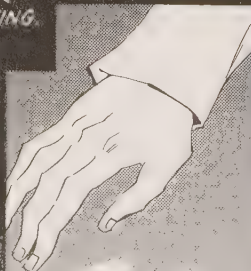
SO YOU
SHOULD
VALUE YOUR
LIVES MORE,
RIGHT—?

...I THOUGHT
WHAT I
TOLD ACE
WAS JUST
COMMON
SENSE.



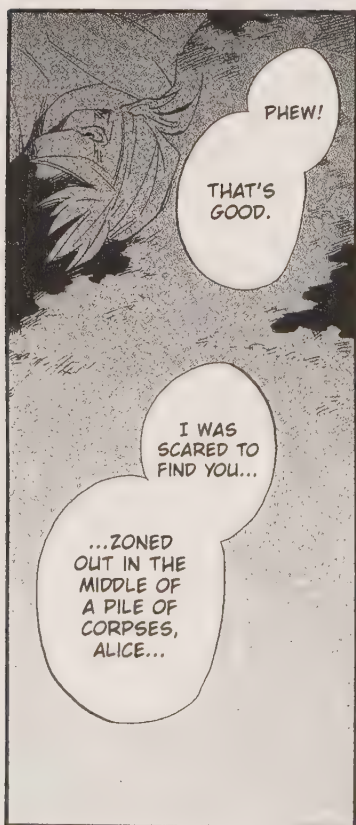
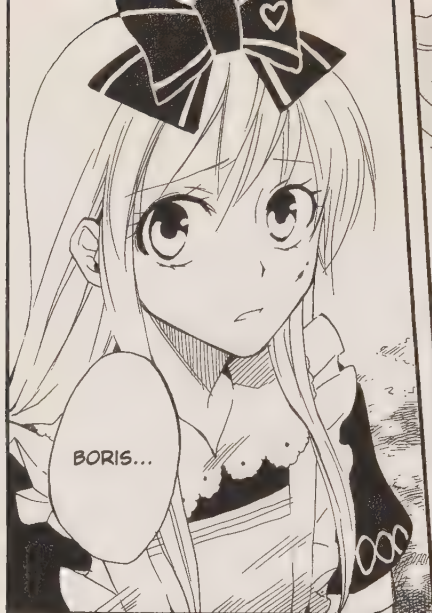
BUT I
KEEP
FOR-
GETTING.

THIS
PLACE
ISN'T
ANYTHING
LIKE MY
WORLD
—...



YOUR SWEET
SENTIMENTS
JUST MIGHT
GET YOU KILLED
IN THIS WORLD,
ALICE.

 ALICE IN THE
COUNTRY OF HEARTS





♥18 Let's go comfortably!



I'M
BEING REAL
CAREFUL NOT
TO GET HURT,
JUST LIKE I
PROMISED!

I-IT'S
OKAY!

CRAP.

GIRU
(CLINGING)

WHY
ARE YOU
EVEN
HERE,
BORIS?

ARE YOU
SNEAKING
INTO THE
CASTLE
AGAIN?

YES'M.

ARE YOU
REALLY?

BAD
KITTY!

COME TO THINK
OF IT, JUST BECAUSE
I GOT BORIS TO
CONNECT HIS BEING
DEAD WITH MY BEING
UPSET, I SHOULDN'T
EXPECT EVERYONE
IN THIS COUNTRY TO
UNDERSTAND.

BUT
SERI-
OUSLY.

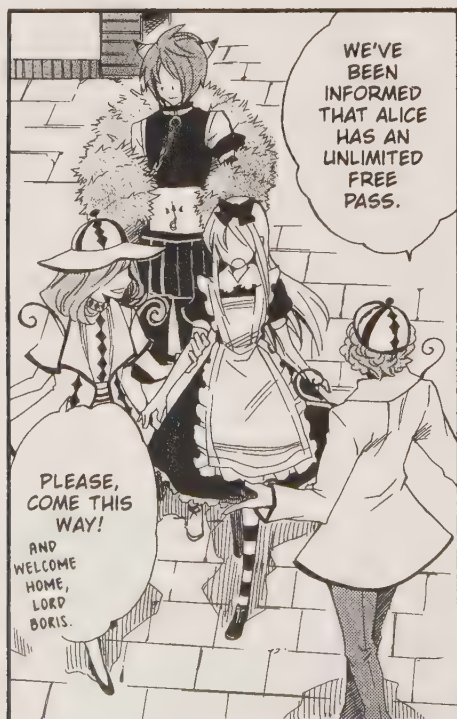
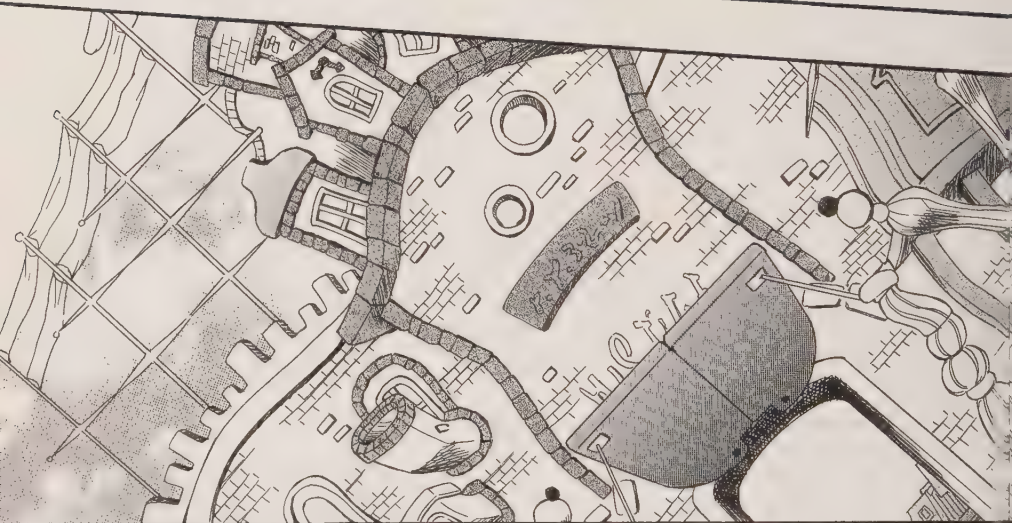
I WANNA
SEE YOU.
AND IF I
GET REALLY
HURT AGAIN,
I CAN'T,
SO...

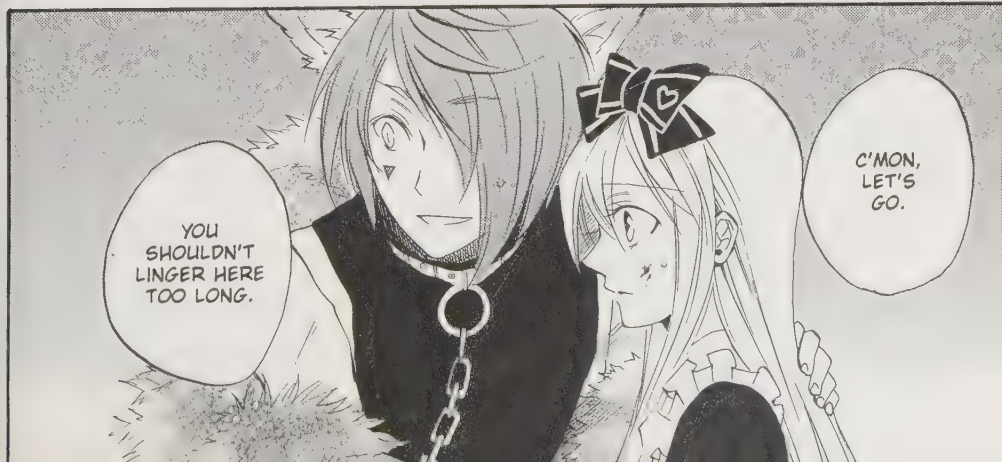
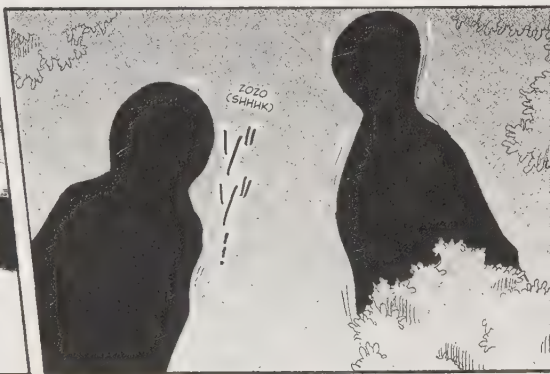
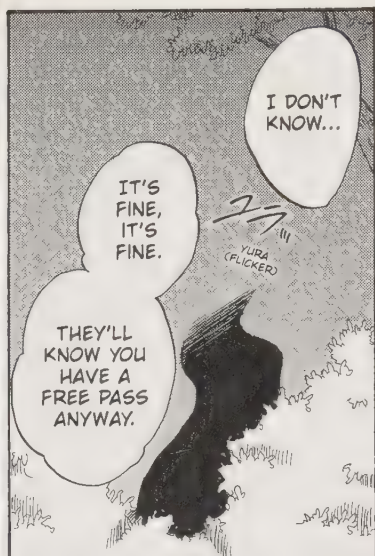
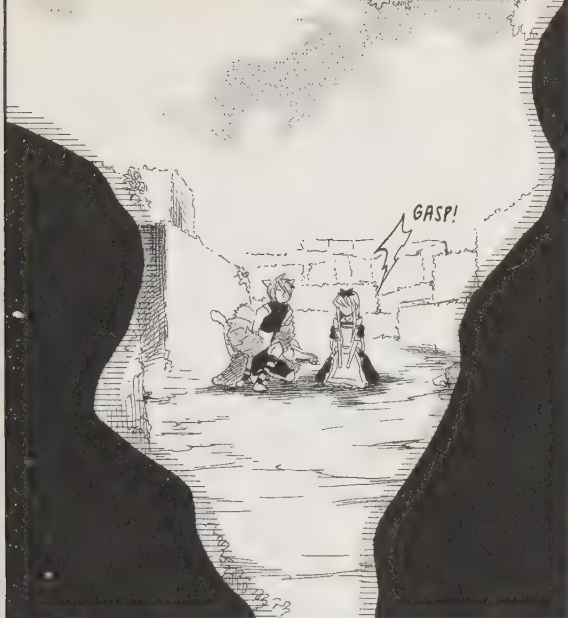
I'M SUCH
A HYPO-
CRITE...

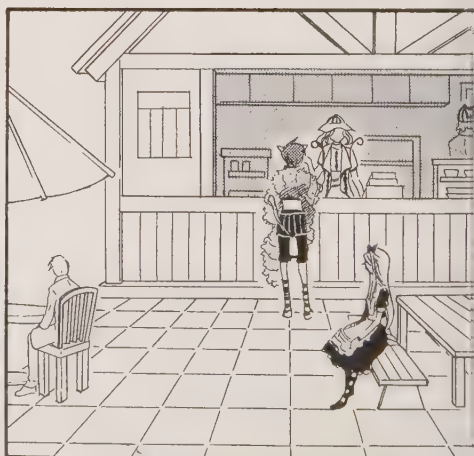
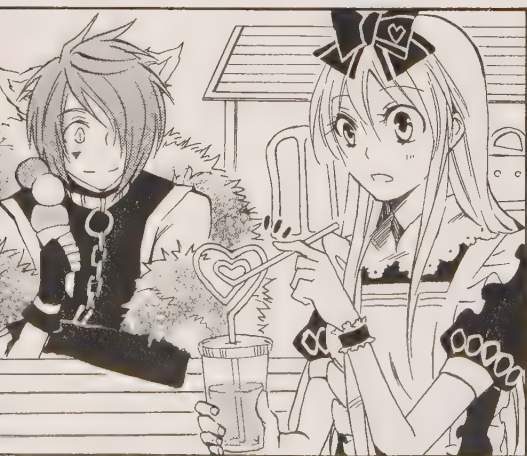
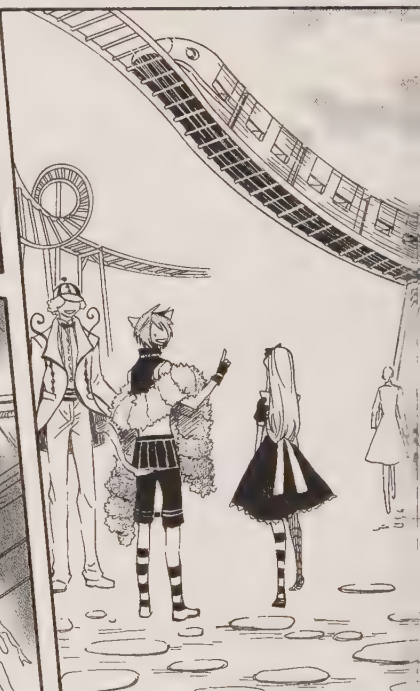
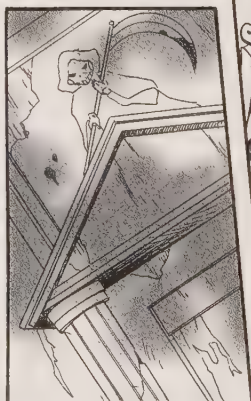
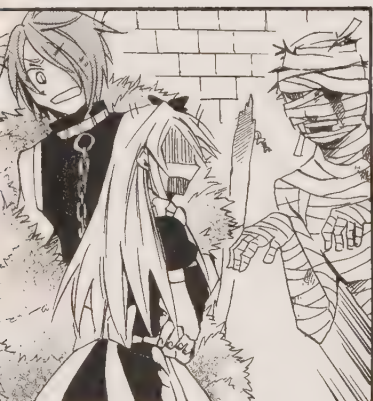
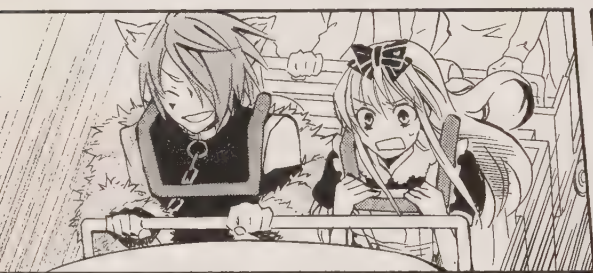
REALLY.
WHAT AM
I EVEN
DOING?

SIGH

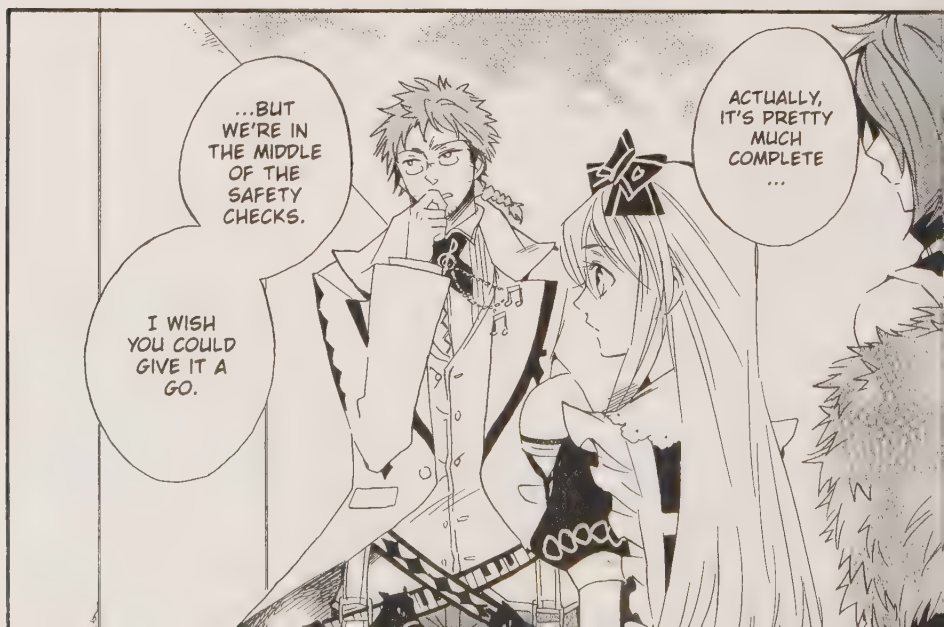
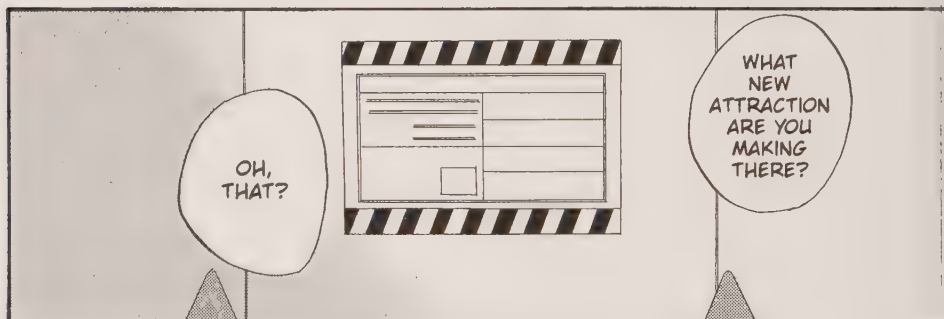
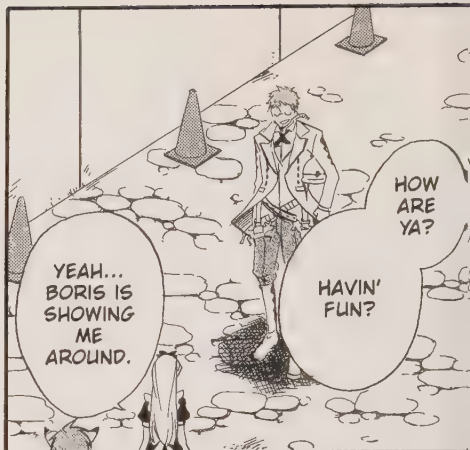
IT ISN'T
AS IF I'M
GOING TO
GO AROUND
PREACHING
THE VALUE
OF LIFE.

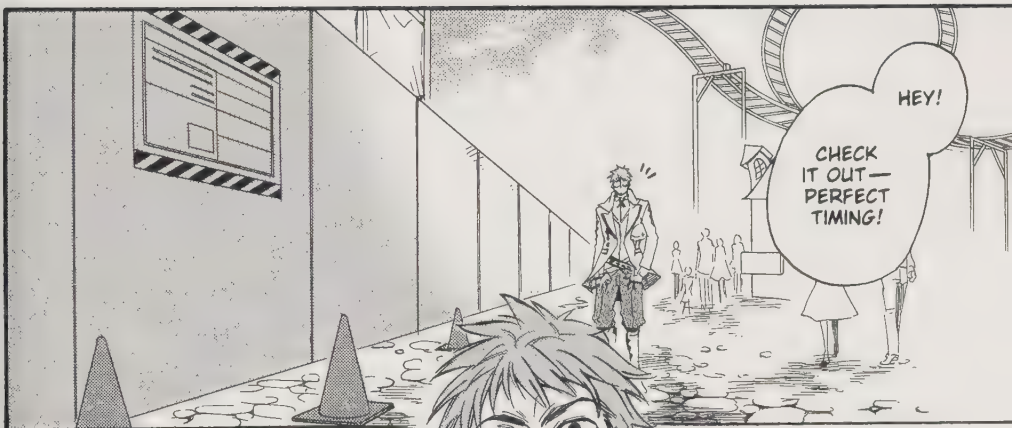
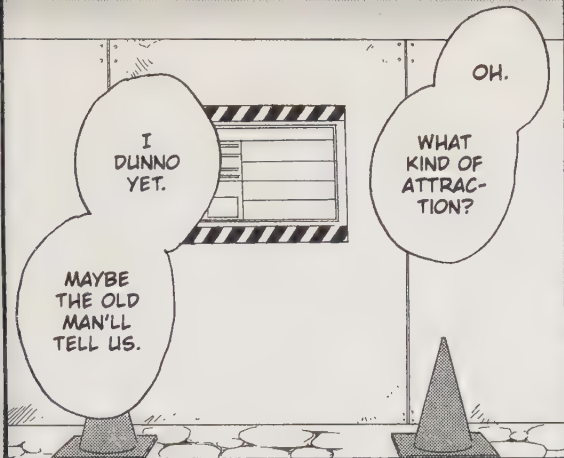


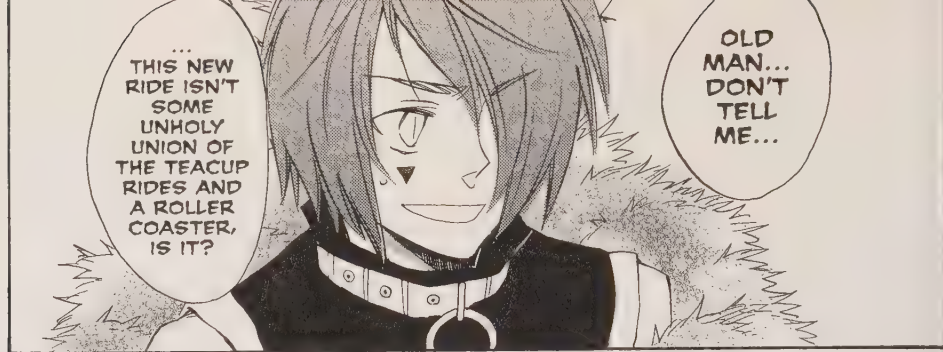












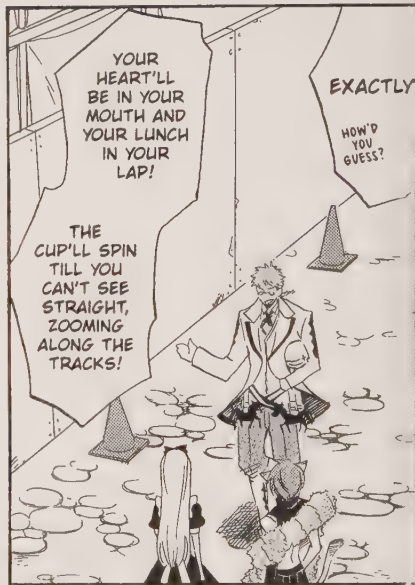
...
THIS NEW
RIDE ISN'T
SOME
UNHOLY
UNION OF
THE TEACUP
RIDES AND
A ROLLER
COASTER,
IS IT?

OLD
MAN...
DON'T
TELL
ME...



I SO
DO NOT
WANT
TO RIDE
THAT.

OH,
HOW THE
PATRONS'LL
SCREAM!!



YOUR
HEART'LL
BE IN YOUR
MOUTH AND
YOUR LUNCH
IN YOUR
LAP!

EXACTLY

HOW'D
YOU
GUESS?

THE
CUP'LL SPIN
TILL YOU
CAN'T SEE
STRAIGHT,
ZOOMING
ALONG THE
TRACKS!



ALICE...

...I DIDN'T
KNOW YOU'D
WANT TO
RIDE IT SO
BADLY...

WELL,
SAFETY
FIRST.



WOW...
WHAT A
TOTALLY
GREAT
IDEA FOR
A PARK
RIDE.

HEH
HEH
HEH

TOO BAD
WE WON'T
GET TO
RIDE IT.
(IN A FLAT TONE)





ちんちん
SOD
(PEEK)

DOGA
(FLOP)

GAKON
(CLINK)

GAKON

ガコン
ガコン
ガコン

サッ
(SHOCK)

WAIT—
WE'RE
REALLY
DOING THIS!?
WHAT ABOUT
THE SAFETY
TEST!?

HUH
...!?

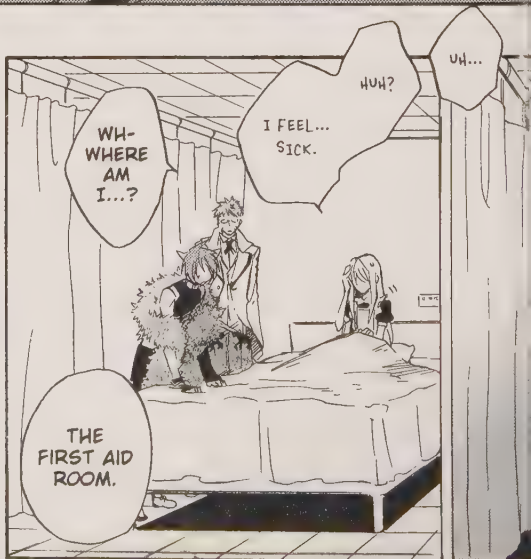
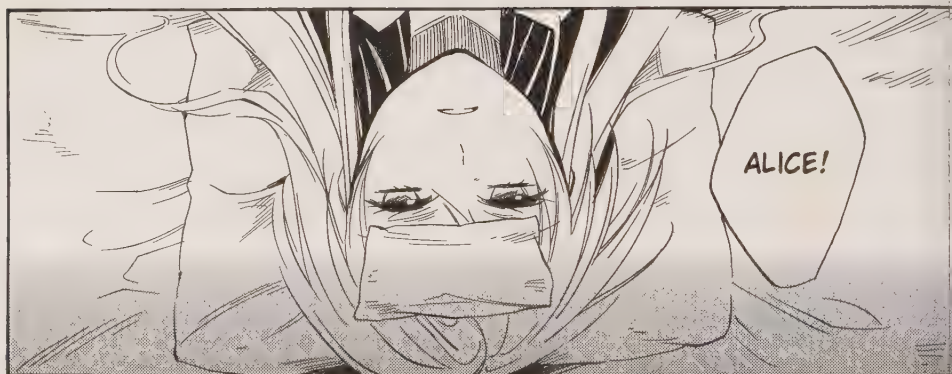
AH.

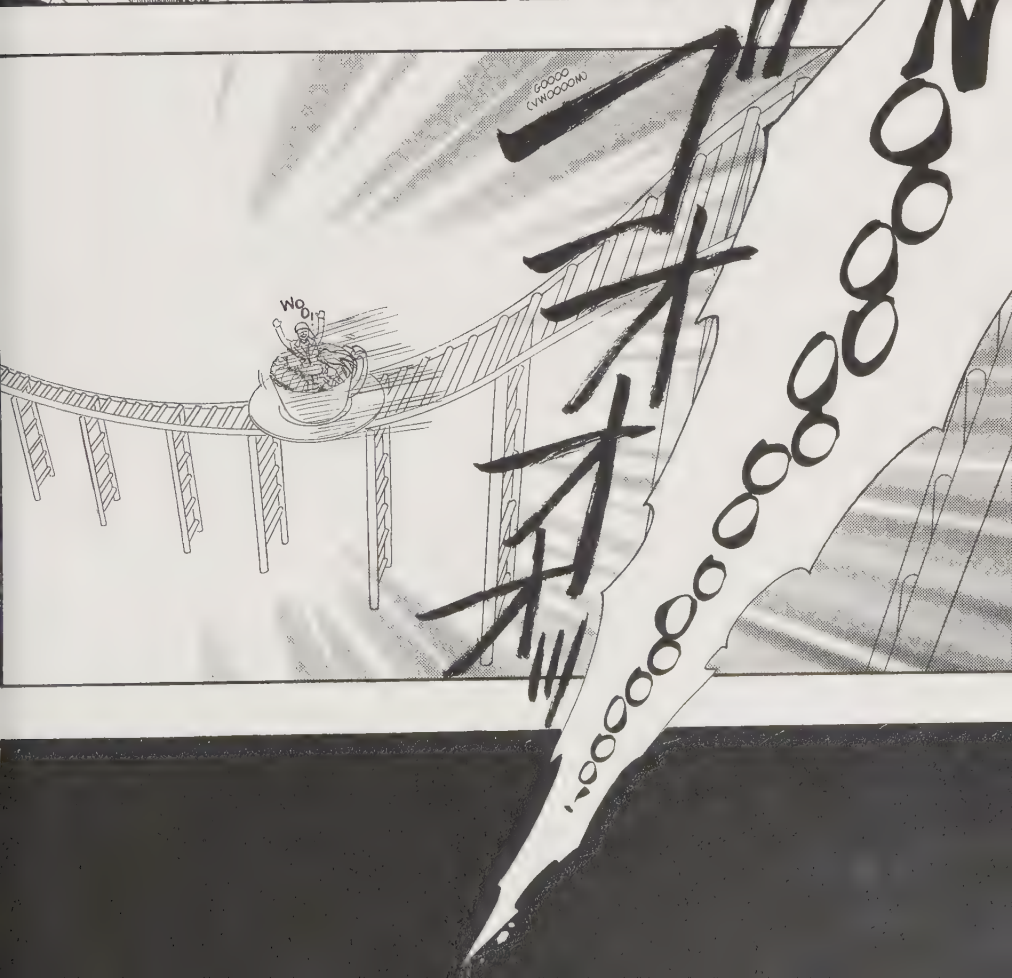
DON'T
YOU WORRY.
WE HAVEN'T
HAD **THAT**
MANY
ACCIDENTS IN
THE PAST.

IT'S
BETTER
TO DO A
TEST RUN
TO CHECK
SAFETY.

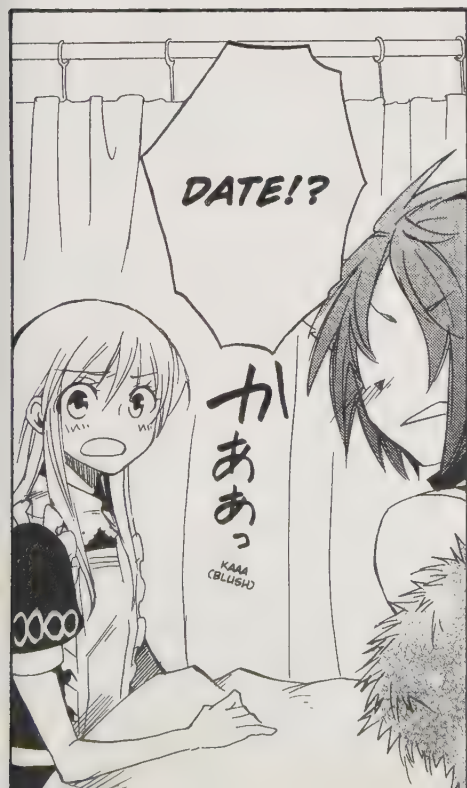
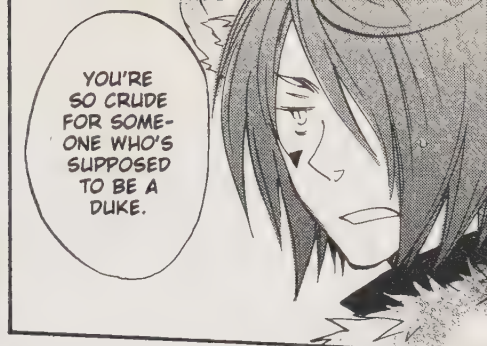
KURU
(TWIRL)
KURU
KURU

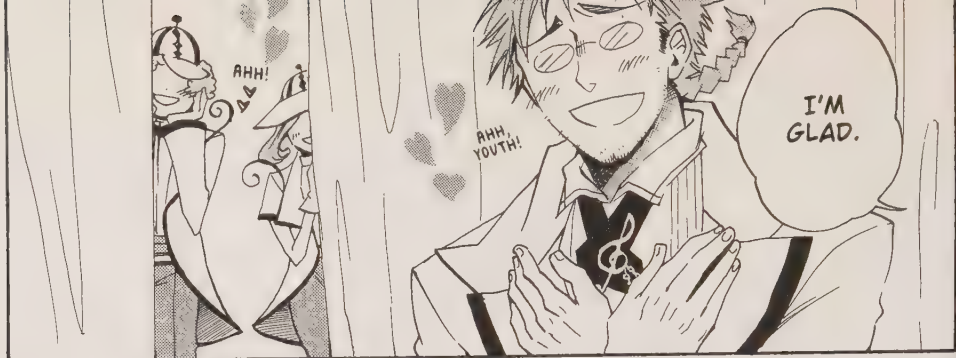
GAKO
GAKO
GAKO
ガコ
ガコ
ガコ











I'M GLAD.

AHH, YOUTH!

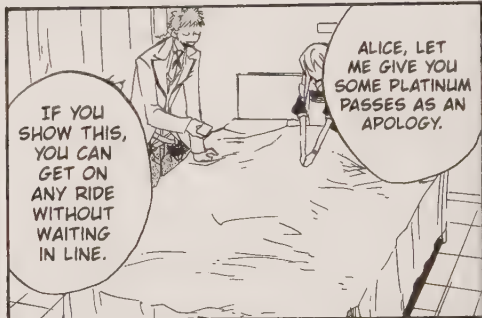
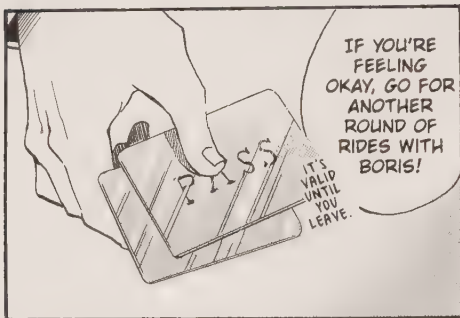
AHH!

IF YOU'RE FEELING OKAY, GO FOR ANOTHER ROUND OF RIDES WITH BORIS!

IT'S VALID UNTIL YOU LEAVE.

IF YOU SHOW THIS, YOU CAN GET ON ANY RIDE WITHOUT WAITING IN LINE.

ALICE, LET ME GIVE YOU SOME PLATINUM PASSES AS AN APOLOGY.



REVENGE

BIKU (FLINCH)

LET'S GO ON THE MERRY-GO-ROUND!!

I THINK I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

BORIS... YOU KNOW WHICH ONE WE SHOULD RIDE FIRST?

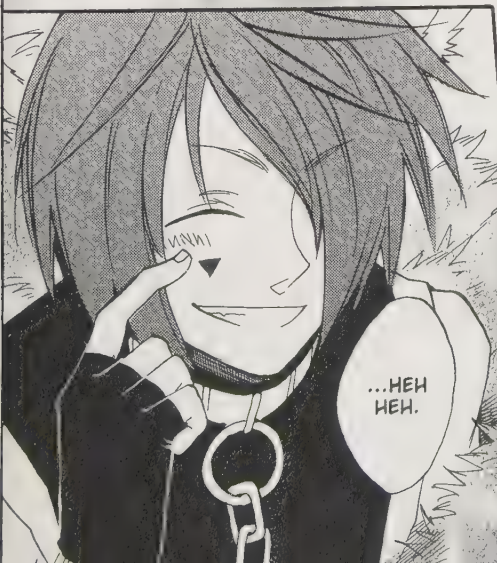
IT'S LIKE
THAT
TIME HE
TOLD
ME THAT
SILLY
RIDDLE.



THAT'S
REALLY...
SWEET.

AND I DO
FEEL A
LOT MORE
RELAXED
WHEN I'M
WITH HIM.

BORIS
IS SO
KIND.



...HEH
HEH.

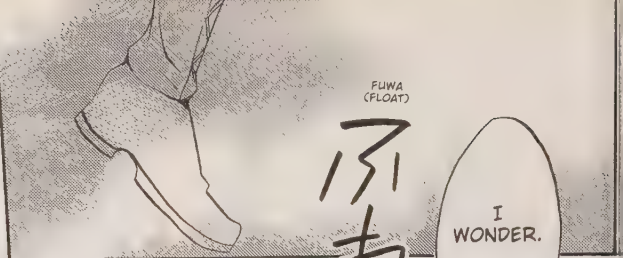


THANK
YOU.

YOU DID
CHEER ME
UP.



WHAT
A COIN-
CIDENCE,
HUH?



FUWA
(FLOAT)

131
本

I
WONDER.



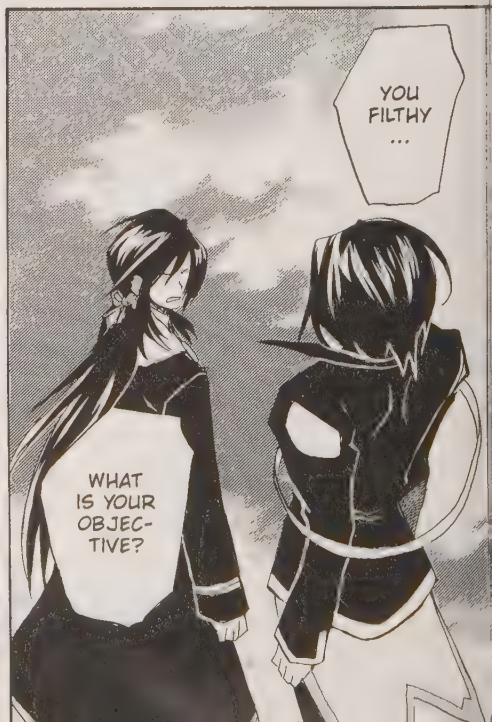
BLOOD
DUPRE
LOOKS
EXACTLY
LIKE ALICE'S
PAST LOVE
FROM
HER OWN
WORLD.

MAYBE
YOU
DIDN'T
HEAR.



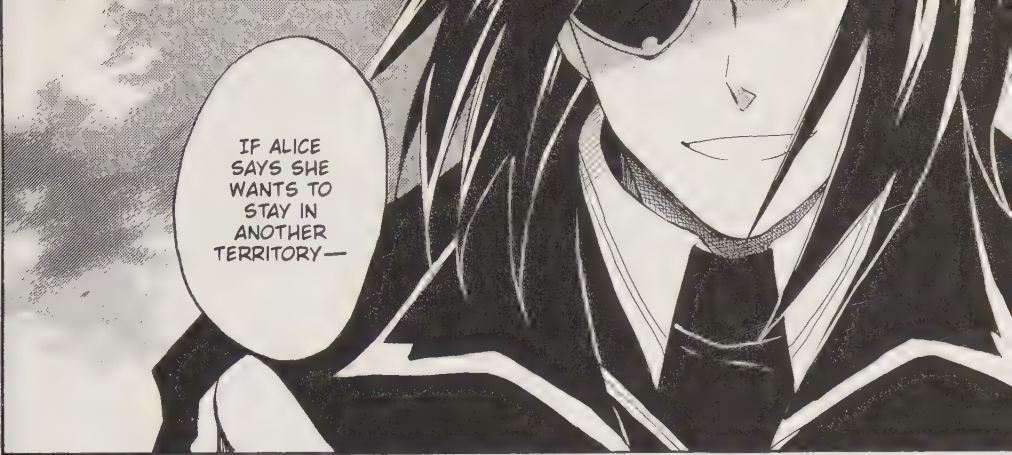
OBJEC-
TIVE?

I'M
TRYING
TO MAKE
ALICE
HAPPY,
JUST
LIKE YOU.

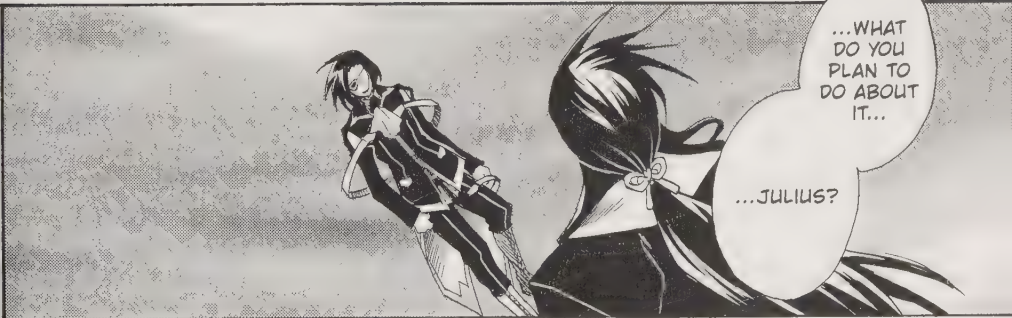


YOU
FILTHY
...

WHAT
IS YOUR
OBJEC-
TIVE?

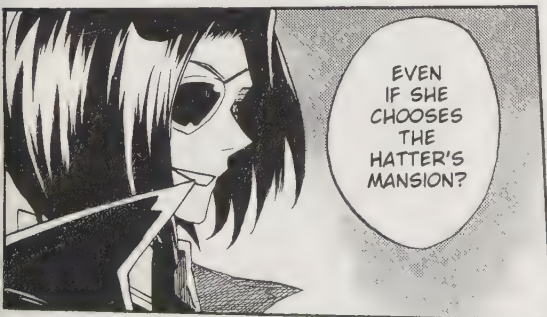


IF ALICE
SAYS SHE
WANTS TO
STAY IN
ANOTHER
TERRITORY—

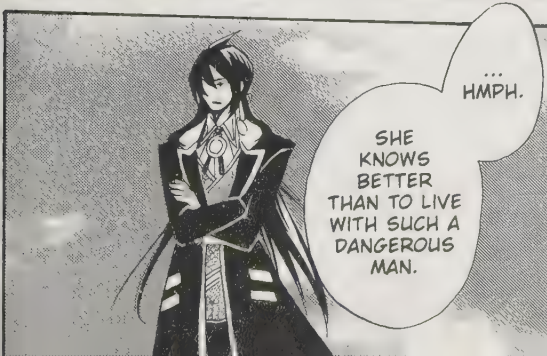


...WHAT
DO YOU
PLAN TO
DO ABOUT
IT...

...JULIUS?

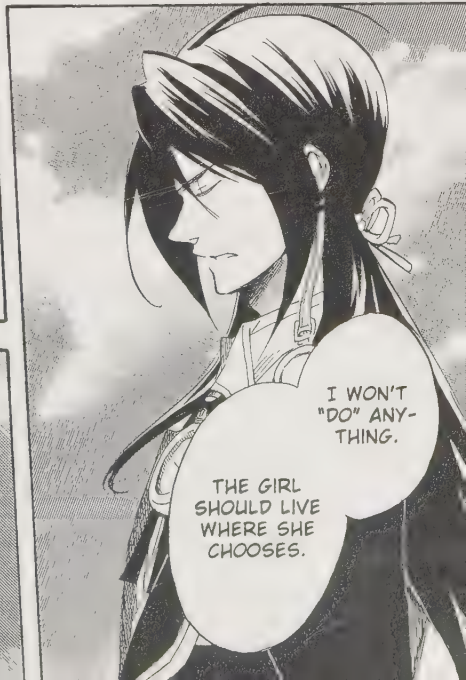


EVEN
IF SHE
CHOOSES
THE
HATTER'S
MANSION?



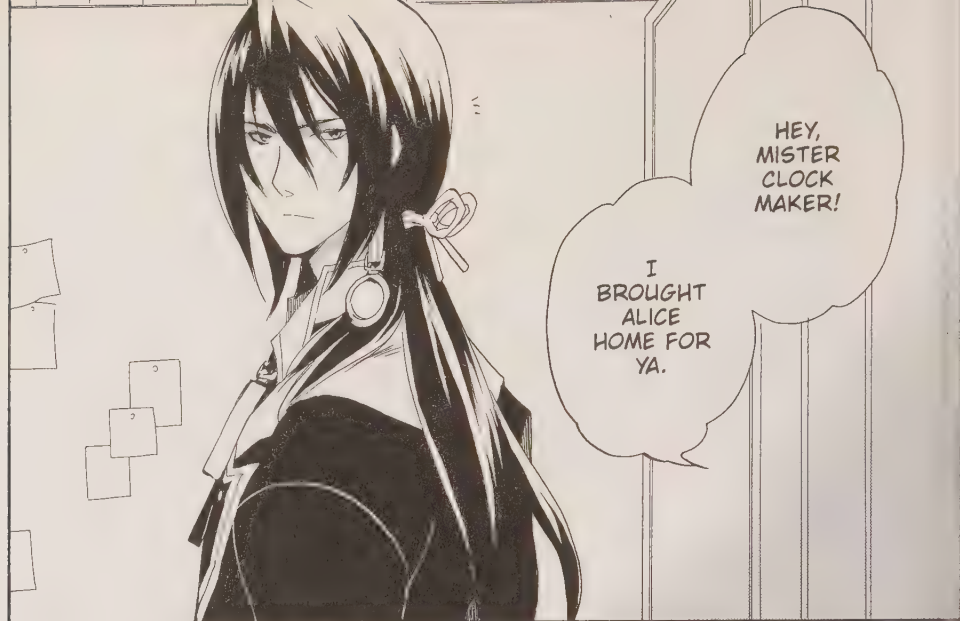
...
HMPH.

SHE
KNOWS
BETTER
THAN TO LIVE
WITH SUCH A
DANGEROUS
MAN.



I WON'T
"DO" ANY-
THING.

THE GIRL
SHOULD LIVE
WHERE SHE
CHOOSES.



HEY,
MISTER
CLOCK
MAKER!

I
BROUGHT
ALICE
HOME FOR
YA.



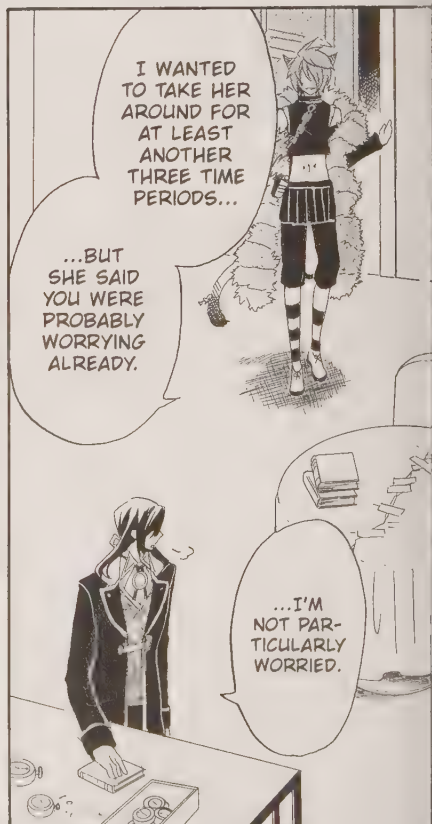
COME
ON,
ALICE!

HURRY
UP AND
COME IN!



I...

I'M
HOME.



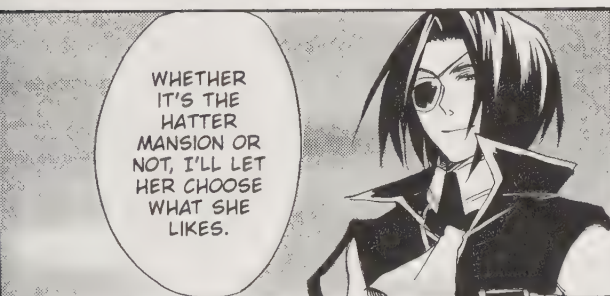
I WANTED
TO TAKE HER
AROUND FOR
AT LEAST
ANOTHER
THREE TIME
PERIODS...

...BUT
SHE SAID
YOU WERE
PROBABLY
WORRYING
ALREADY.

...I'M
NOT PAR-
TICULARLY
WORRIED.



SO
YOU'RE AN
ACCOMPLICE
OF PETER
WHITE.



WHETHER
IT'S THE
HATTER
MANSION OR
NOT, I'LL LET
HER CHOOSE
WHAT SHE
LIKES.

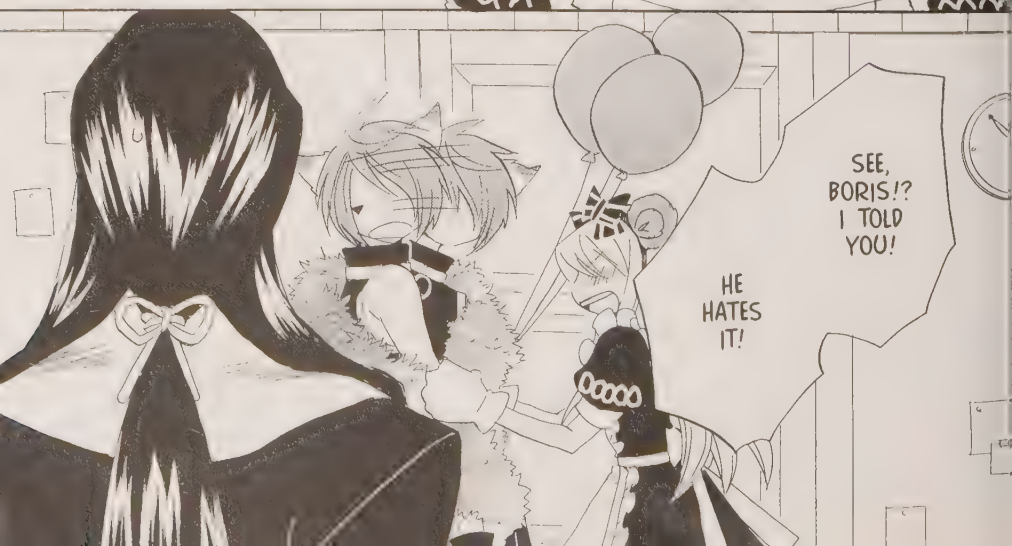


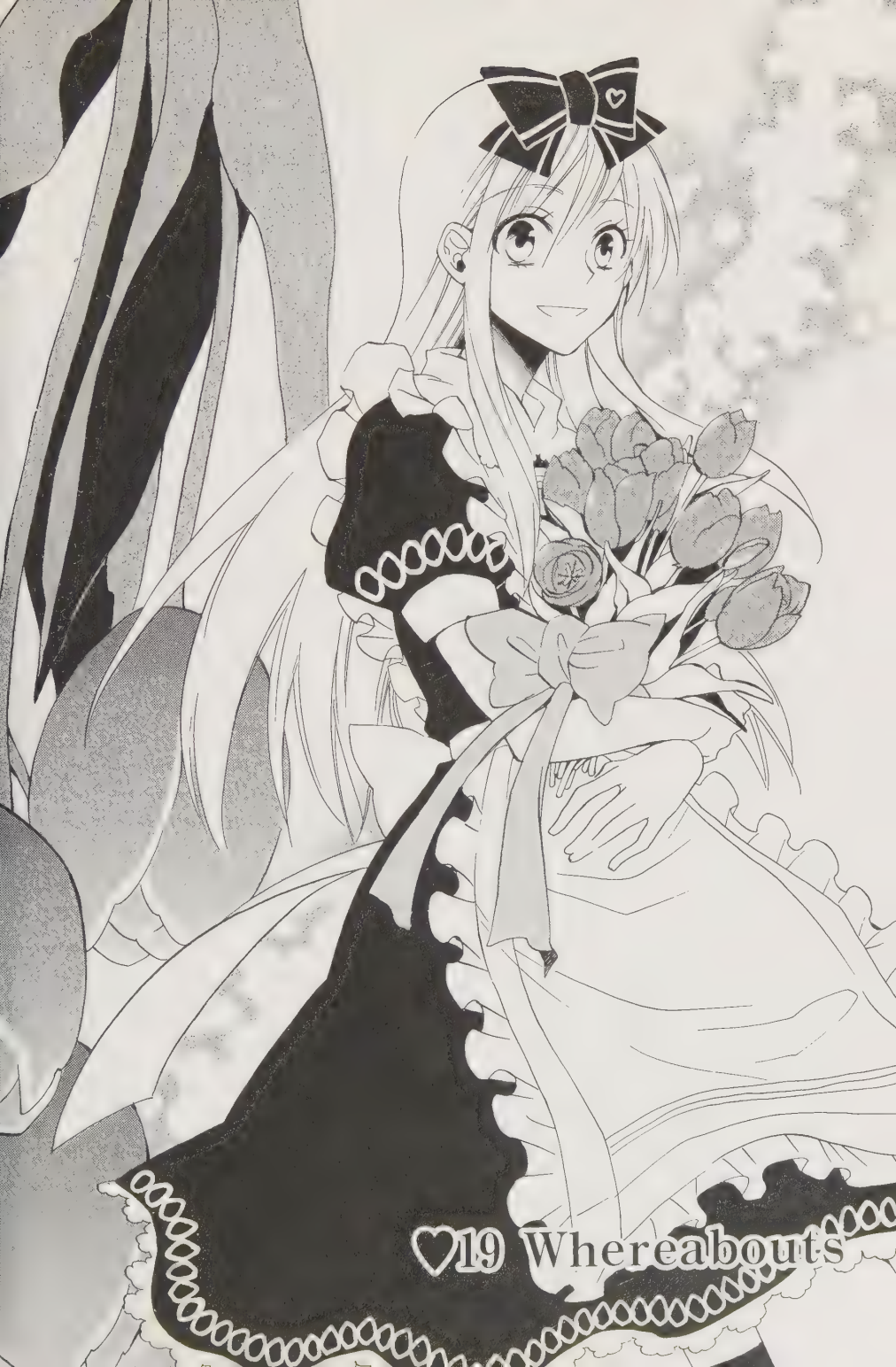
THAT'S
ALL THERE
IS TO IT.

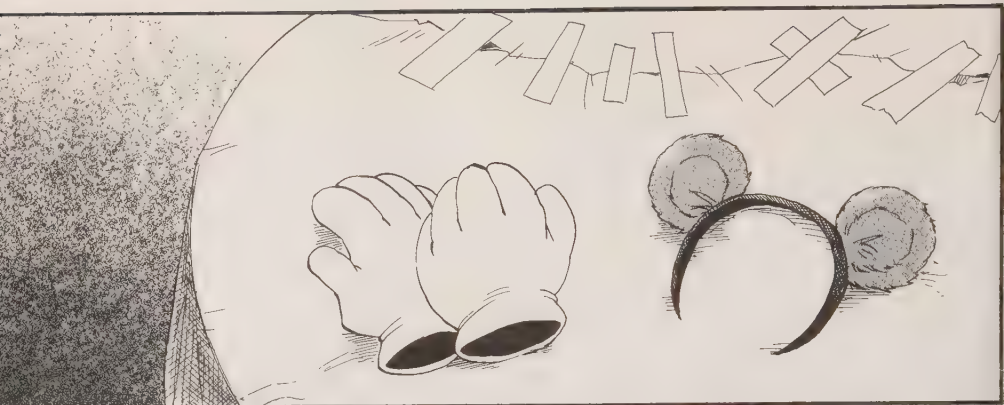


AM I
NOW?

LISTEN
TO ME.







HAAH...

...I CAN'T BELIEVE I GOT SO CARRIED AWAY.

TO THINK I WALKED HERE WITH THEM ON—I MUST HAVE LOOKED LIKE AN IDIOT.

...THEY TOLD ME THESE COSTUMES ARE REALLY POPULAR AT THE PARK.

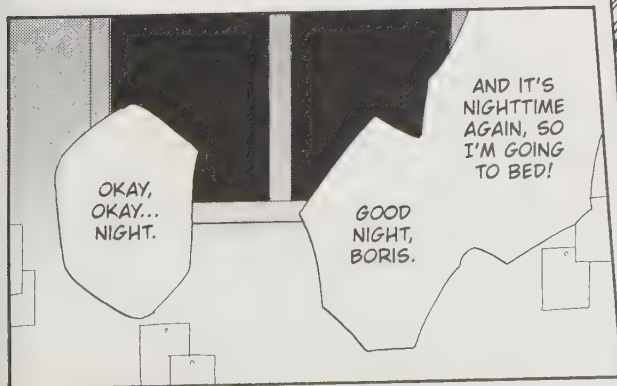
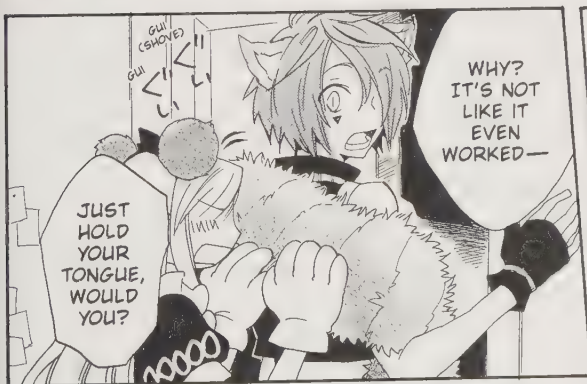
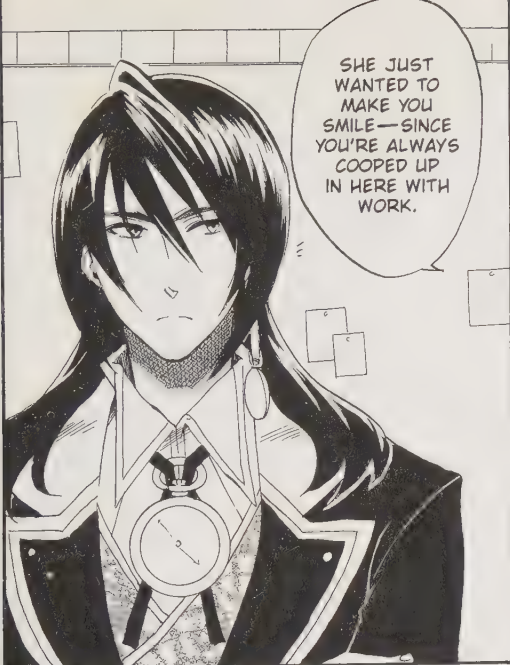
IT MADE SENSE TO WEAR THEM THERE SINCE EVERYONE ELSE WAS, BUT...

BUT...

...I THOUGHT IT MIGHT MAKE YOU LAUGH BECAUSE IT DOESN'T SUIT ME.

I'M SO EMBARRASSED!

IT CERTAINLY DIDN'T SUIT YOU.





AND IT
SEEMS LIKE
YOU HAVE
EVEN MORE
CLOCKS TO
FIX!

AH!



IT EXTENDED
BEYOND THE
TABLE, BUT
I'D RATHER
NOT TALK
ABOUT IT.

SOME...
UNPLEAS-
ANTNESS
OCCURRED
WHILE
YOU WERE
GONE.

ゴト
GOTO
(CLUNK)



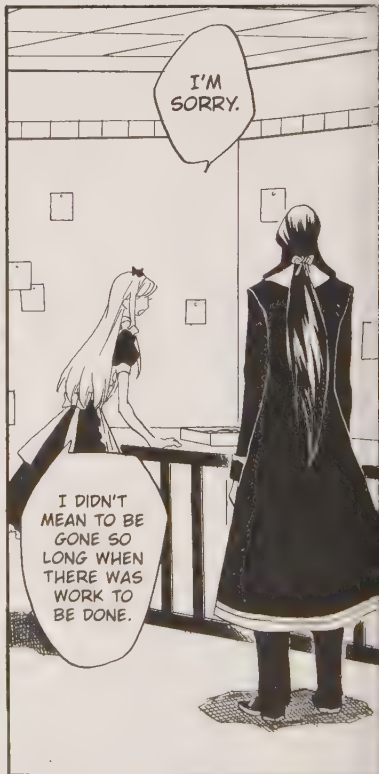
YOUR
HELP IS
APPRECIATED,
BUT MY WORK
ISN'T YOUR
RESPON-
SIBILITY.

IT'S
NOT YOUR
CONCERN.



I TOLD
YOU I'M NOT
COMFORTABLE
UNLESS I'M
EARNING MY
KEEP HERE.

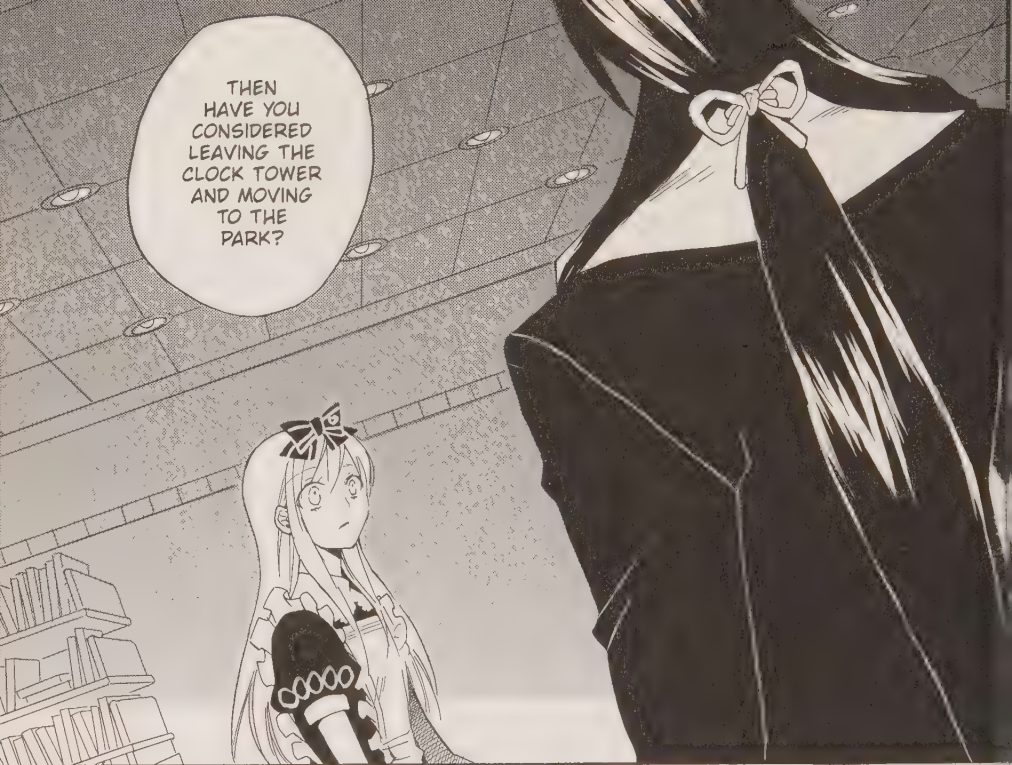
DON'T
SAY
THAT.



I'M
SORRY.

I DIDN'T
MEAN TO BE
GONE SO
LONG WHEN
THERE WAS
WORK TO
BE DONE.

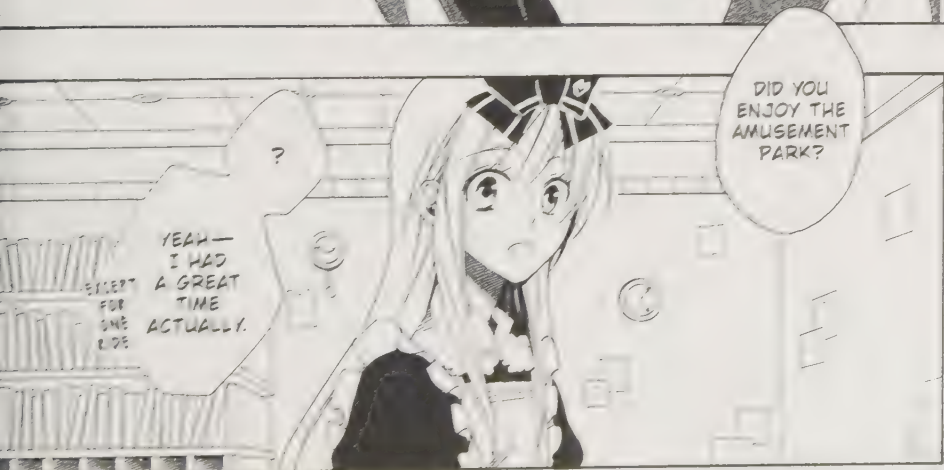
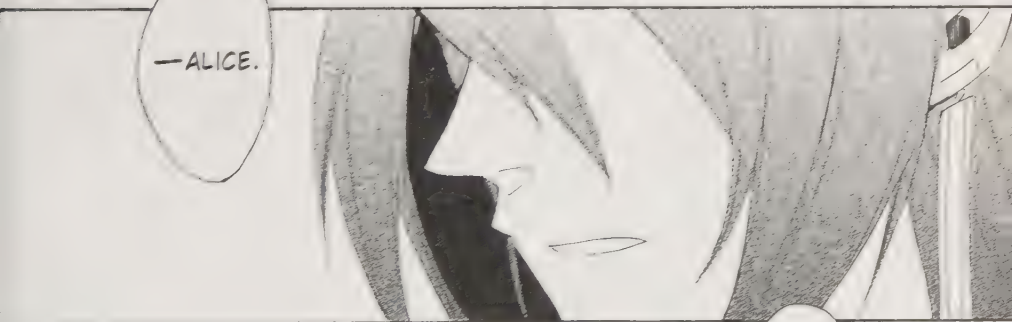
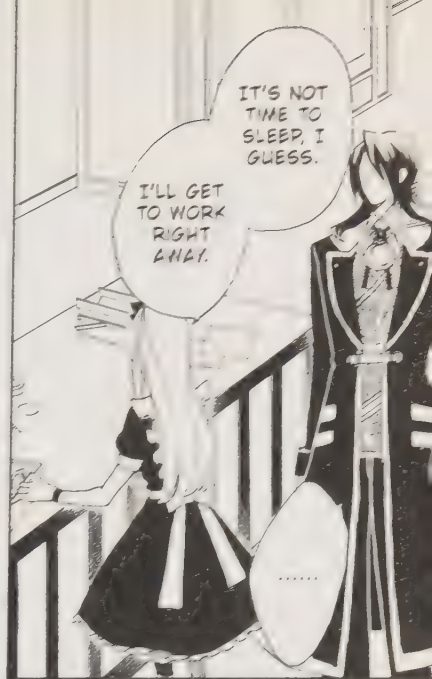
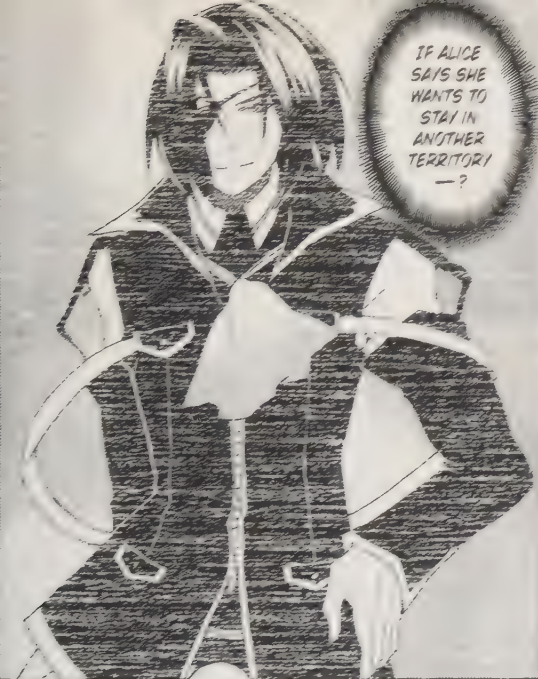


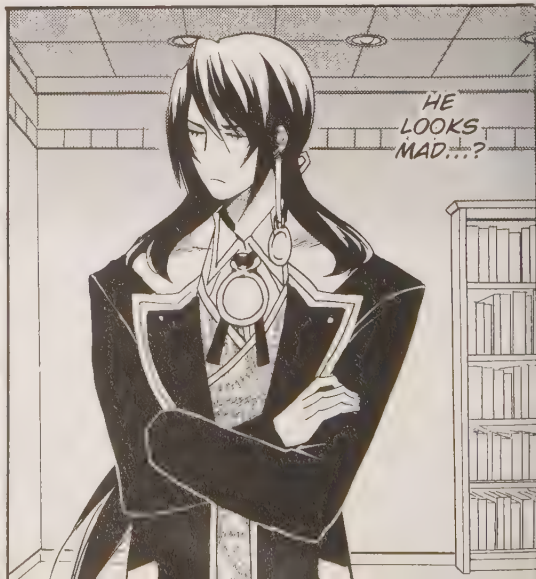
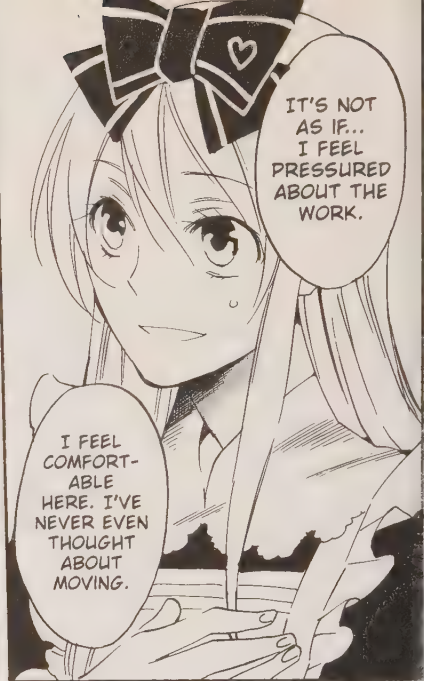


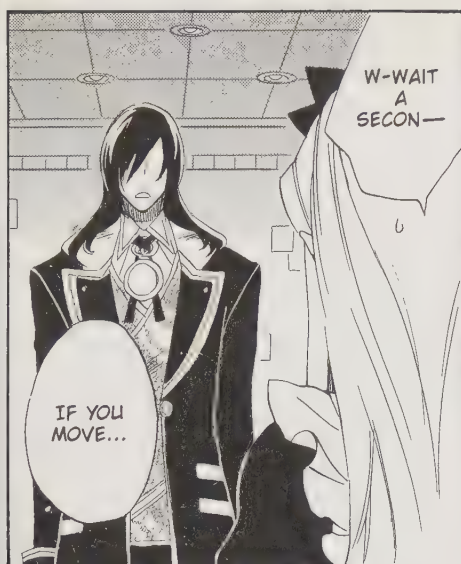
THEN
HAVE YOU
CONSIDERED
LEAVING THE
CLOCK TOWER
AND MOVING
TO THE
PARK?



HUH...?

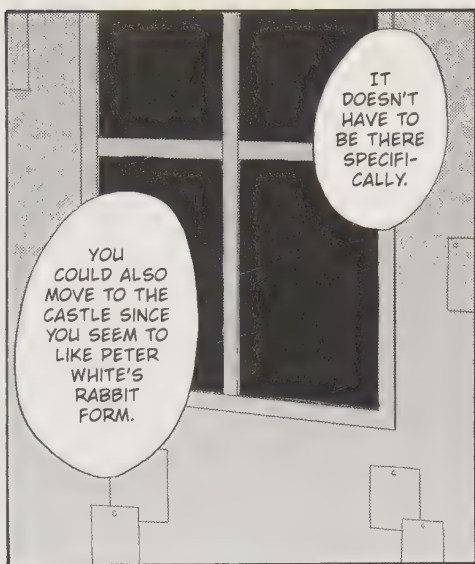






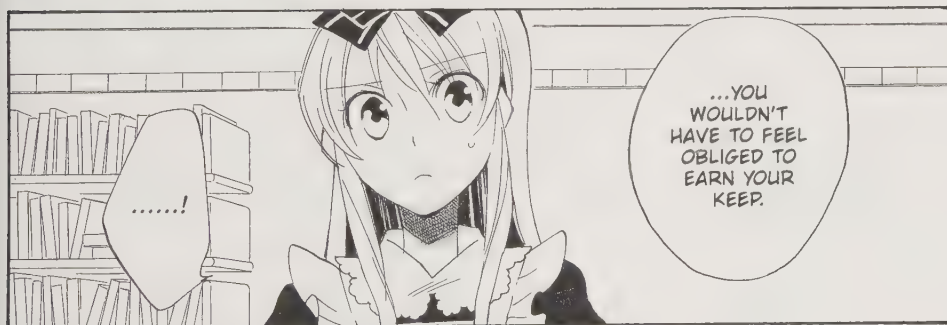
IF YOU
MOVE...

W-WAIT
A
SECON—



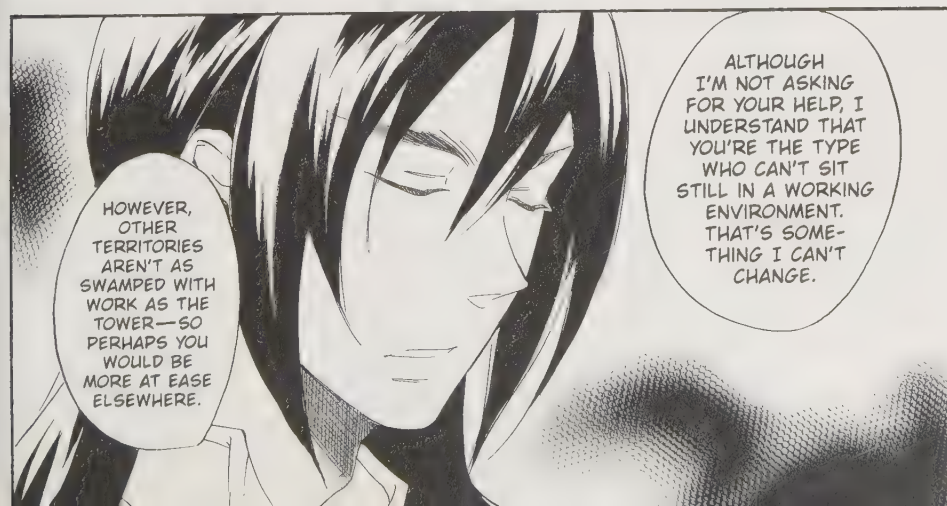
YOU
COULD ALSO
MOVE TO THE
CASTLE SINCE
YOU SEEM TO
LIKE PETER
WHITE'S
RABBIT
FORM.

IT
DOESN'T
HAVE TO
BE THERE
SPECIFI-
CALLY.



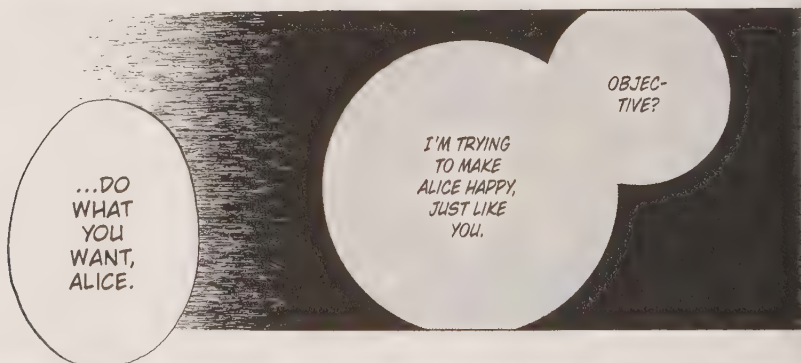
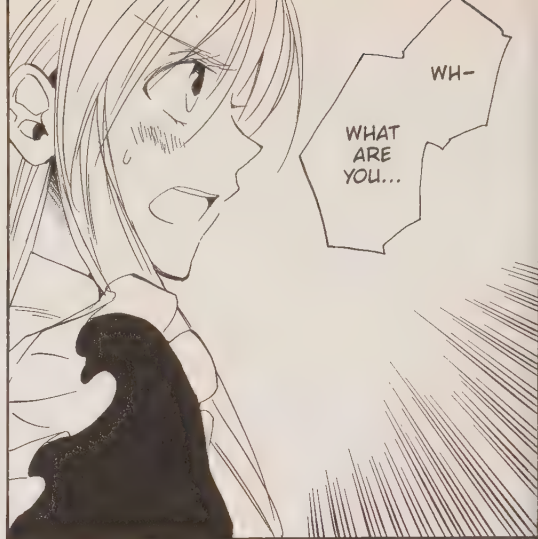
...YOU
WOULDN'T
HAVE TO FEEL
OBLIGED TO
EARN YOUR
KEEP.

.....!



HOWEVER,
OTHER
TERRITORIES
AREN'T AS
SWAMPED WITH
WORK AS THE
TOWER—SO
PERHAPS YOU
WOULD BE
MORE AT EASE
ELSEWHERE.

ALTHOUGH
I'M NOT ASKING
FOR YOUR HELP, I
UNDERSTAND THAT
YOU'RE THE TYPE
WHO CAN'T SIT
STILL IN A WORKING
ENVIRONMENT.
THAT'S SOME-
THING I CAN'T
CHANGE.

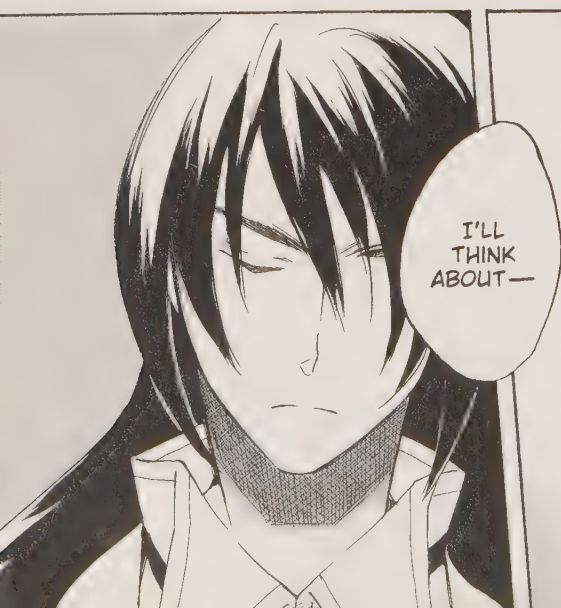


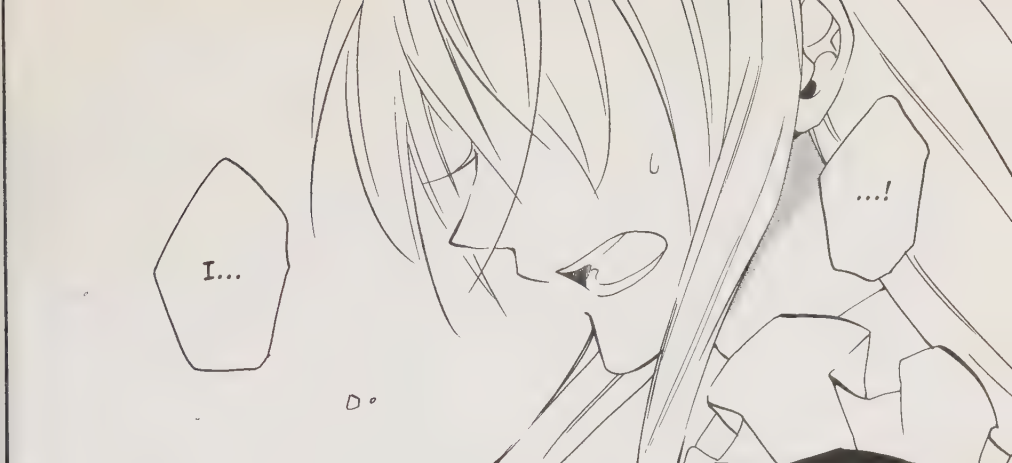


MAYBE
JULIUS ISN'T
COMFORTABLE
LIVING WITH
SOMEONE
ELSE—...



JUST
BECAUSE
HE DIDN'T
REJECT ME
OUTRIGHT...
I'VE OVER-
STAYED MY
WELCOME...





I...

...!

D°

I
DON'T.
BUT...

I
DON'T
WANT
TO
LEAVE.



SOME THINGS
HAPPENED, SO
HE'S LETTING
ME STAY AT THE
TOWER FOR A
WHILE.

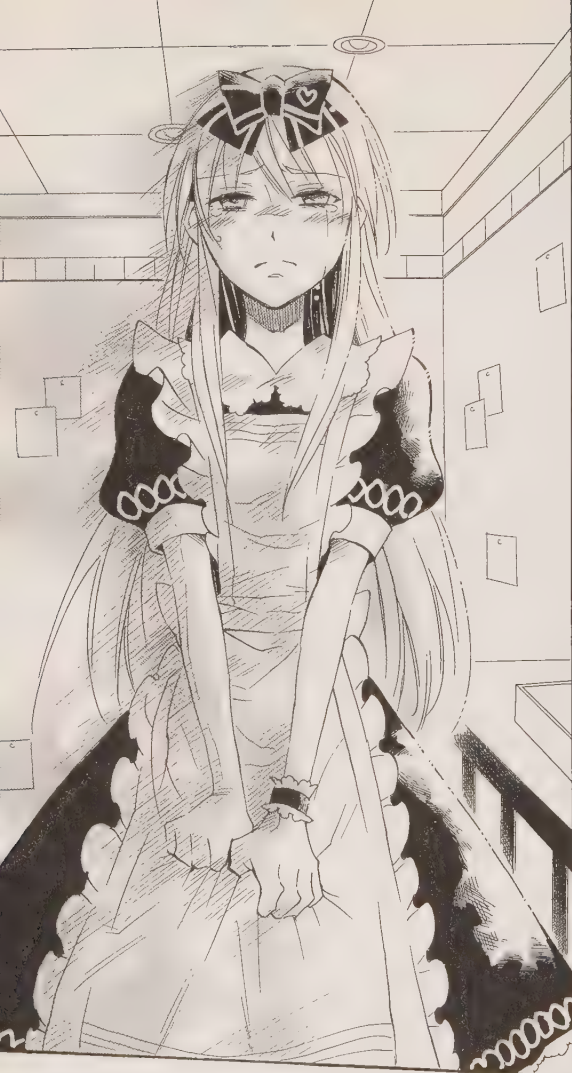
HMM,
HE DID
...?

ANYWAY,
FOR HIM TO
LET YOU STAY
HERE...

...YOU
MAY BE AN
OUTSIDER,
BUT I'M STILL
SURPRISED.



...AM I
ANNOYING
HIM BY
STAYING
HERE...?

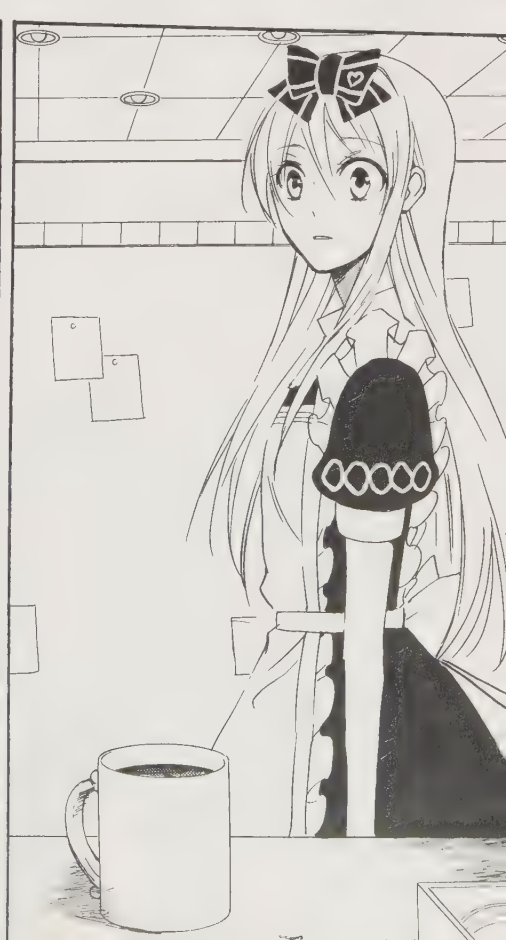
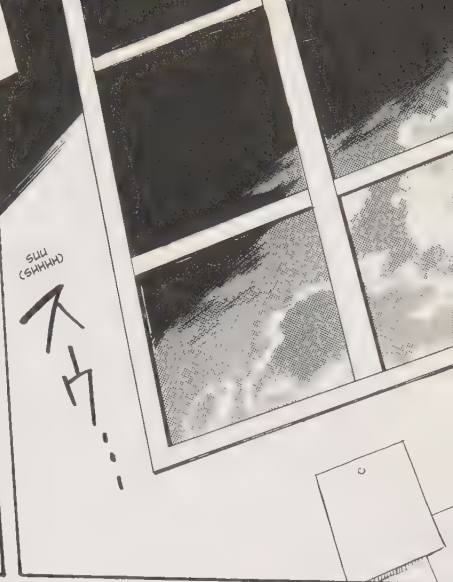
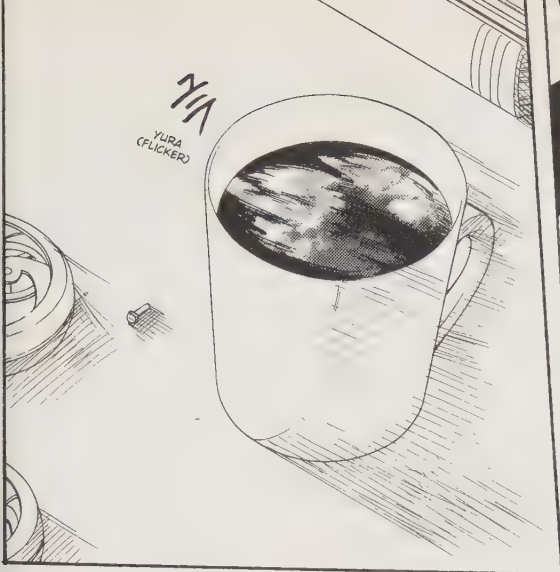


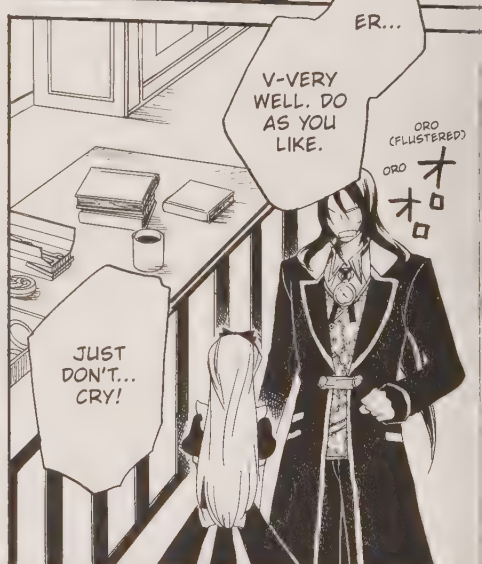
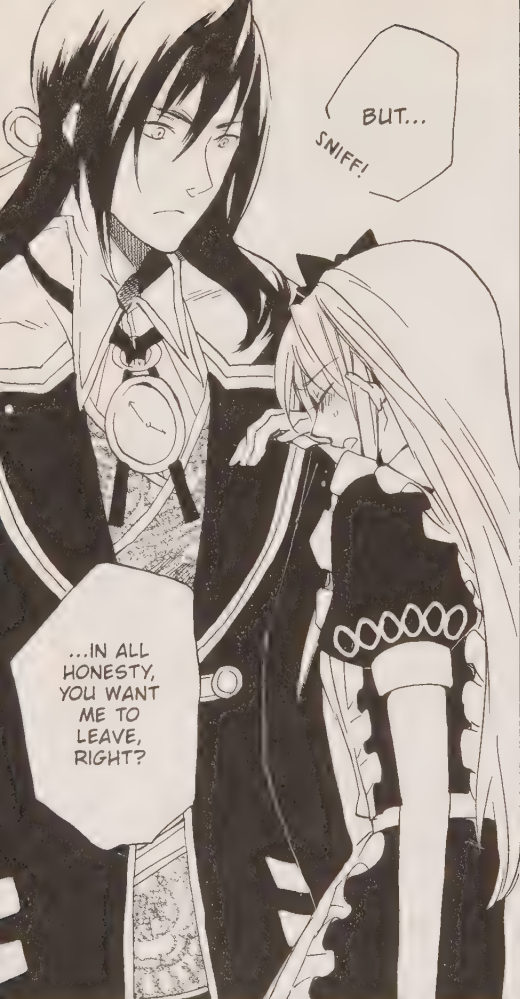
NO.

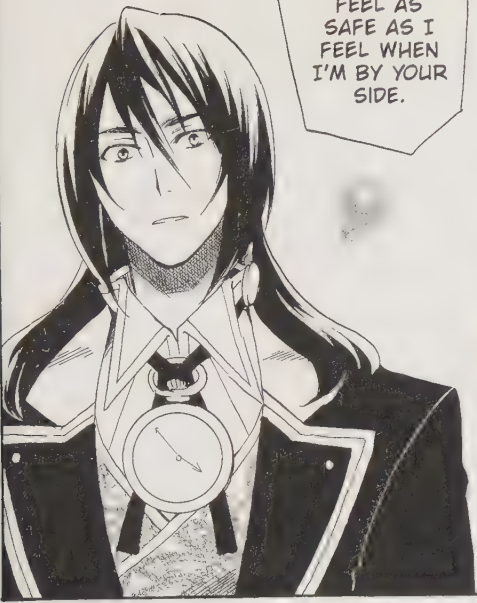
07
KIRA
COLINT

I DIDN'T
JUST STAY
HERE
BECAUSE
HE DIDN'T
TELL ME
TO LEAVE.





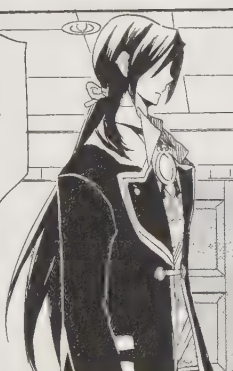




NOBODY IN
THIS WORLD
MAKES ME
FEEL AS
SAFE AS I
FEEL WHEN
I'M BY YOUR
SIDE.

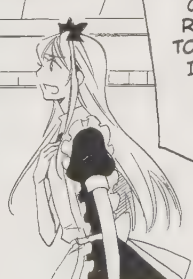


I...
I DON'T
WANT TO
LIVE ANY-
WHERE
ELSE!

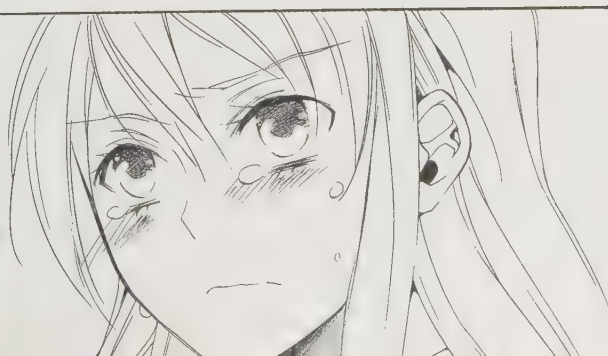


THAT'S
WHAT I
WANT!

YOU'RE
OKAY
WITH IT,
RIGHT!?



IF THE
CHOICE IS
REALLY UP
TO ME, THEN
I CHOOSE
THIS
PLACE.



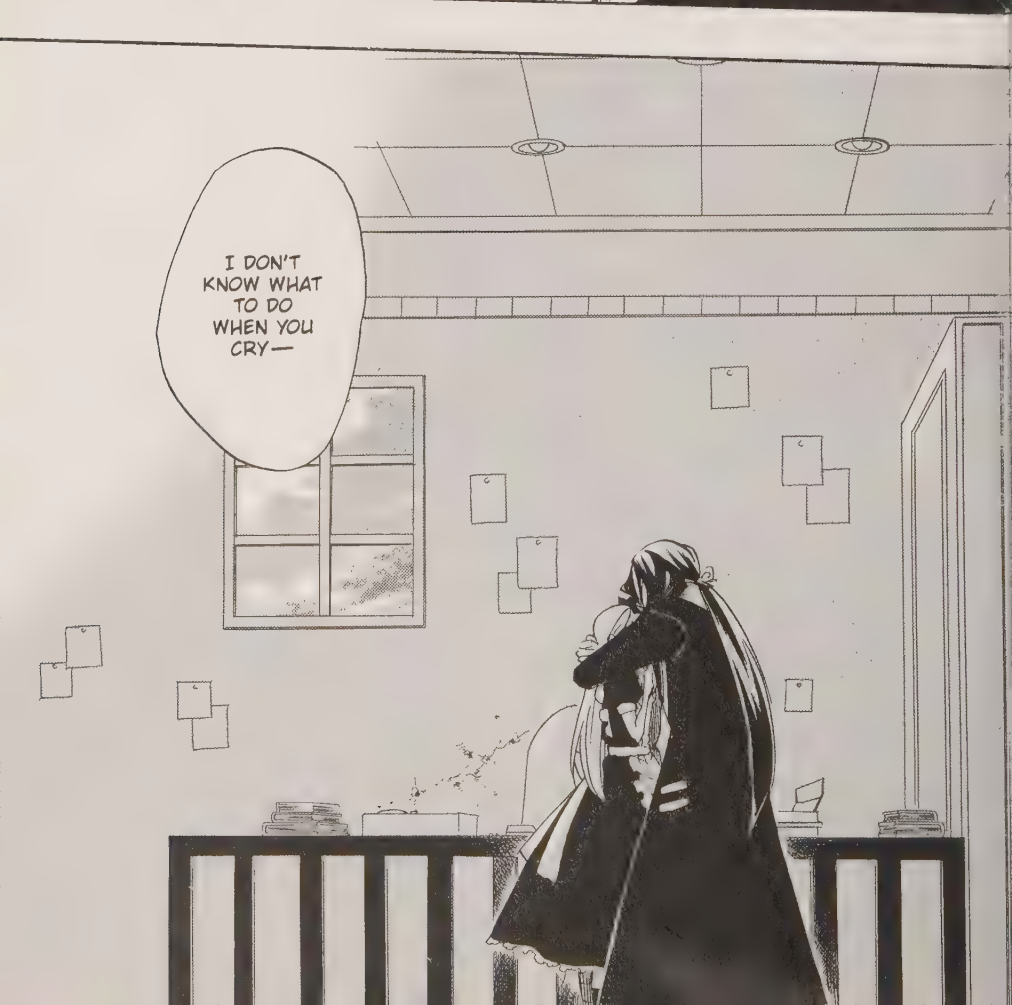
PORO
(DRIP)
PORO



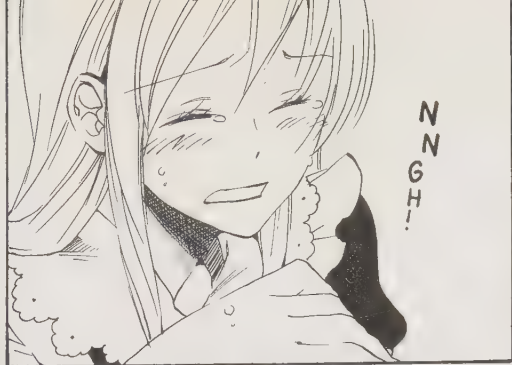
PLEASE...
PLEASE,
STOP
CRYING.

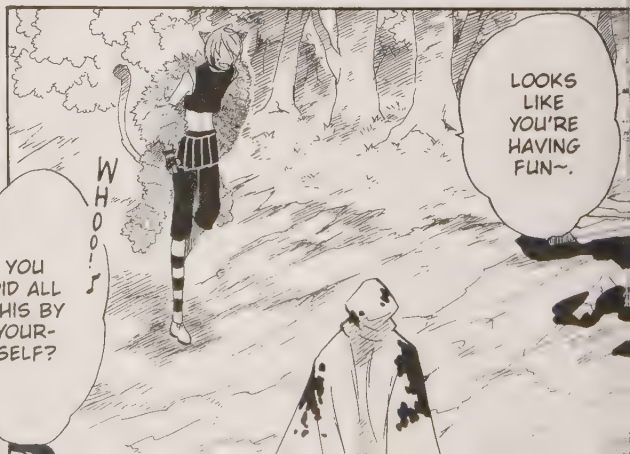
I
DIDN'T
INTEND
TO UPSET
YOU.

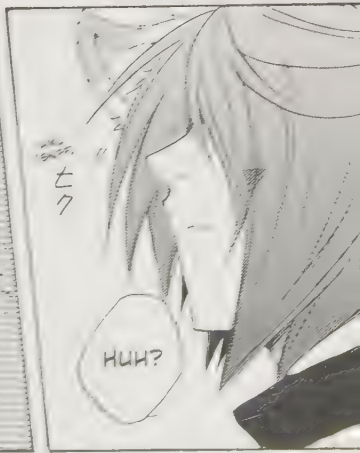
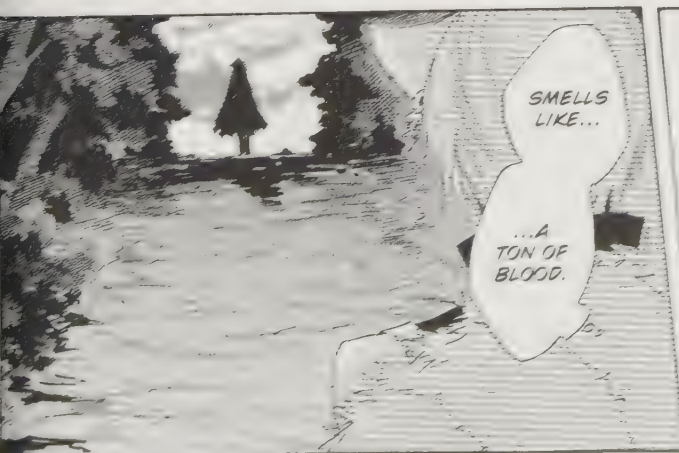
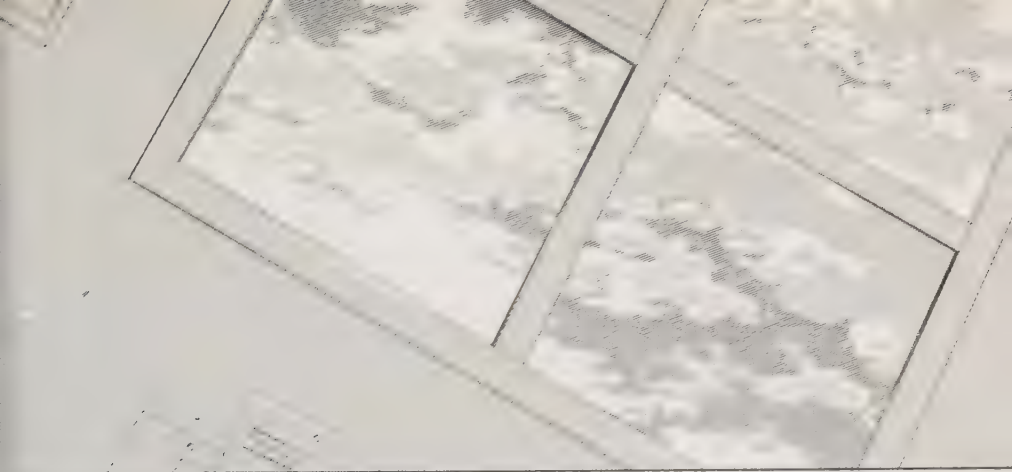
...I'M
SORRY.



I DON'T
KNOW WHAT
TO DO
WHEN YOU
CRY—









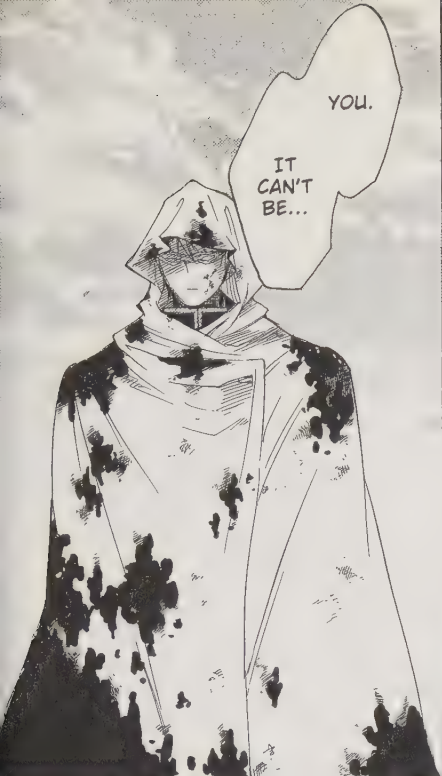
YOU.

IT
CAN'T
BE...



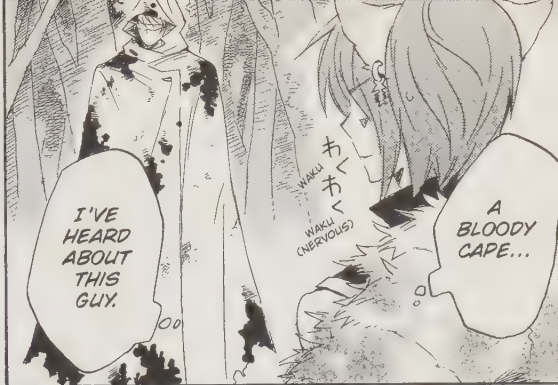
WELL,
WELL.

HEY
THERE,
CHESHIRE
CAT.



YOU.

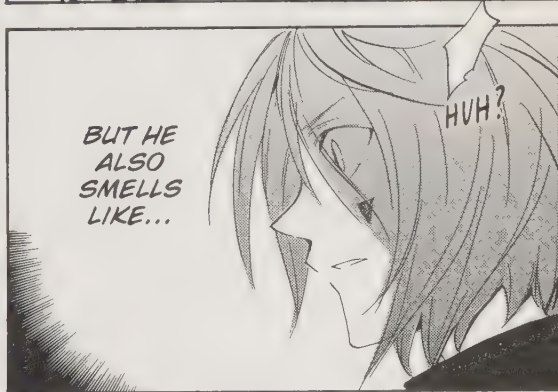
IT
CAN'T
BE...



I'VE
HEARD
ABOUT
THIS
GUY.

WAKU
WAKU
(NERVOUS)

A
BLOODY
CAPE...

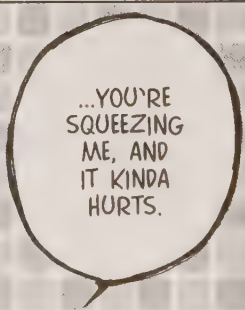
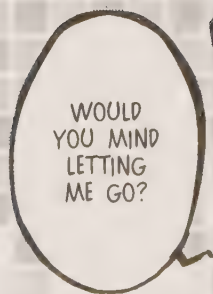


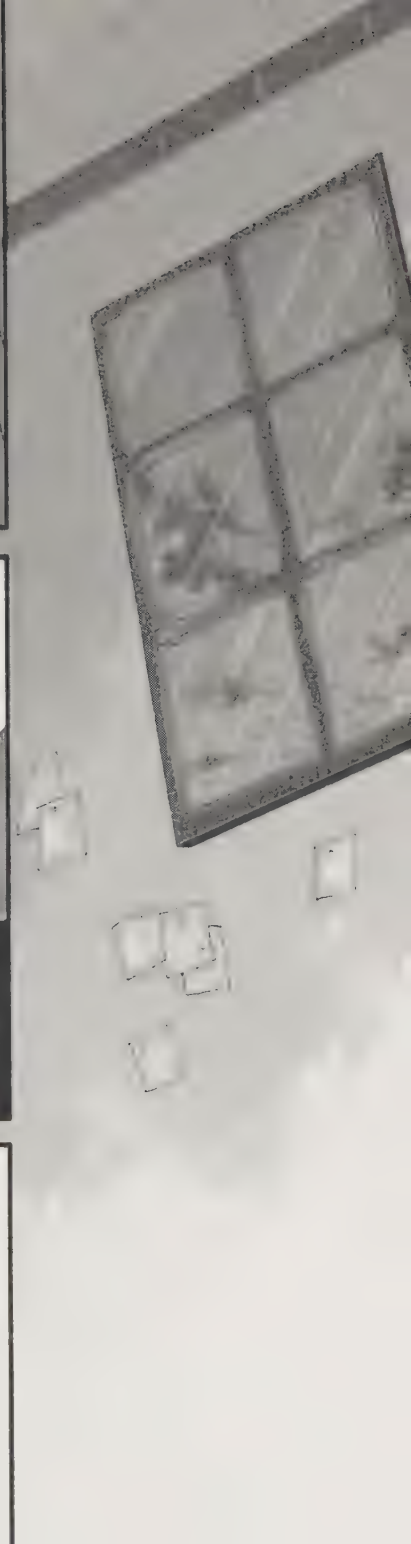
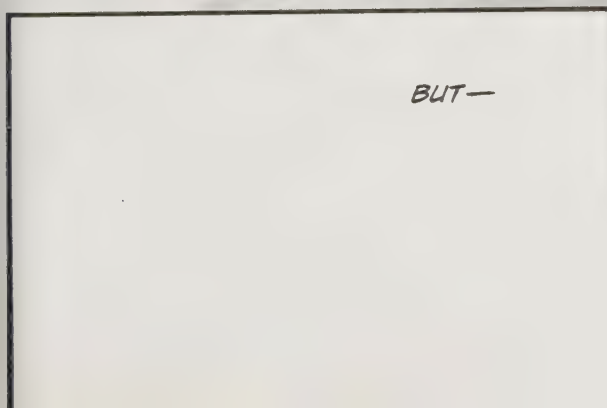
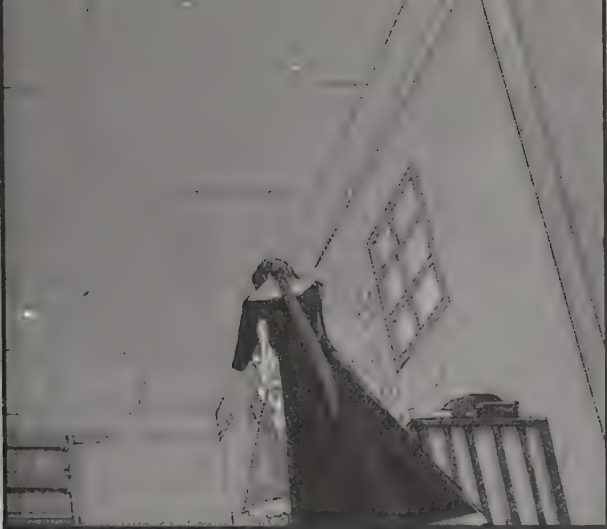
BUT HE
ALSO
SMELLS
LIKE...

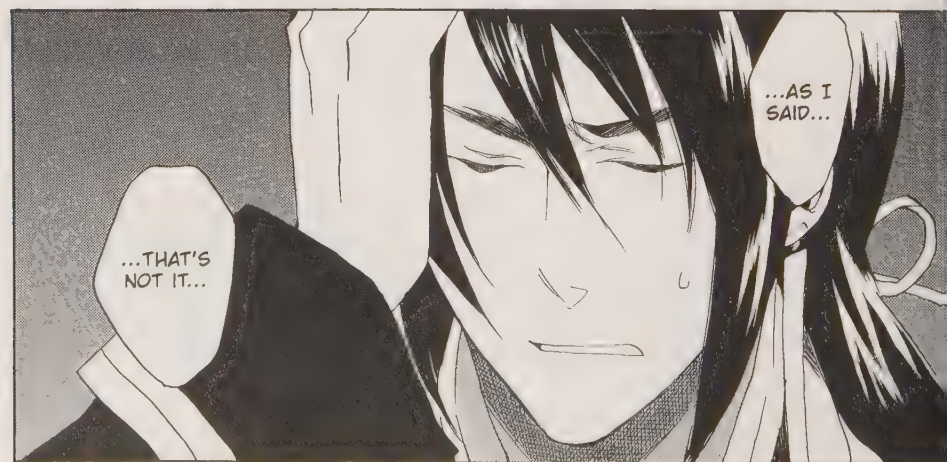
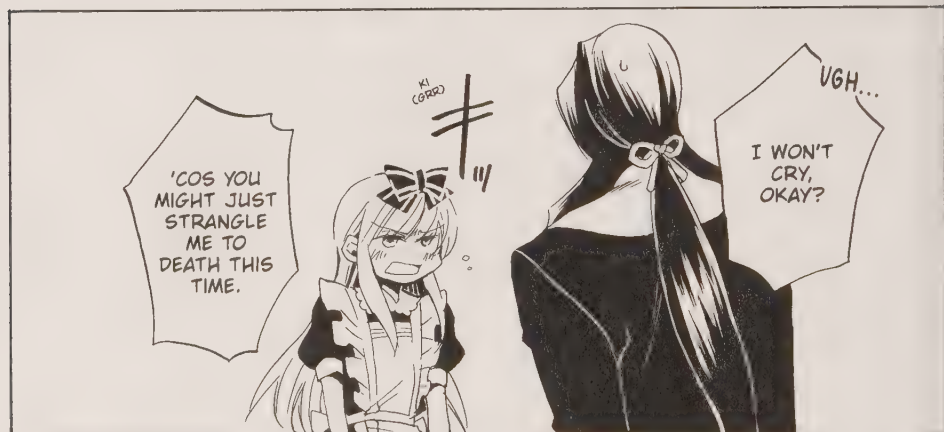
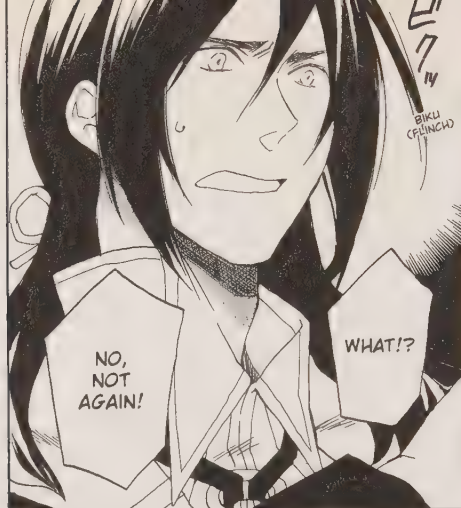
HUH?

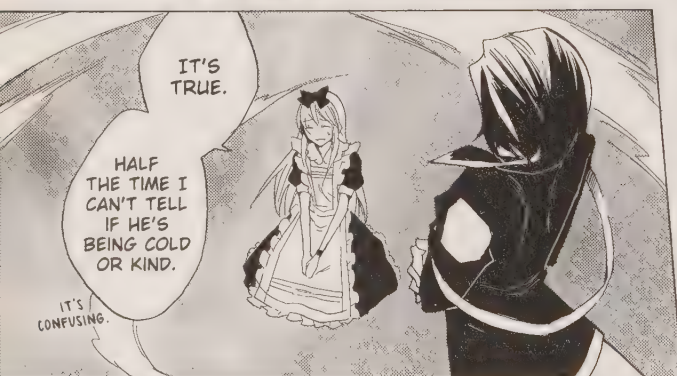


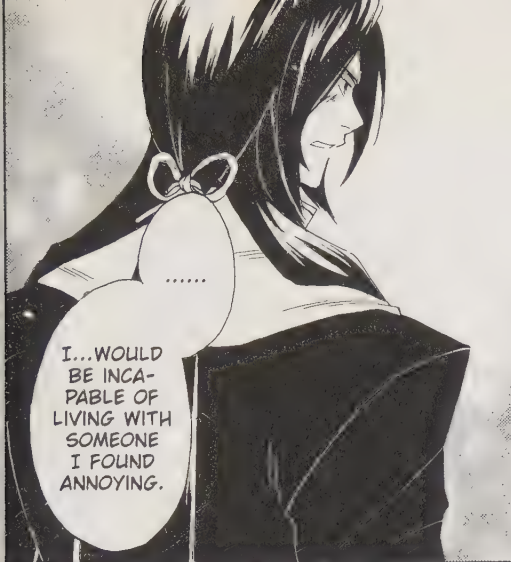
HEY
THERE,
CHESHIRE
CAT.









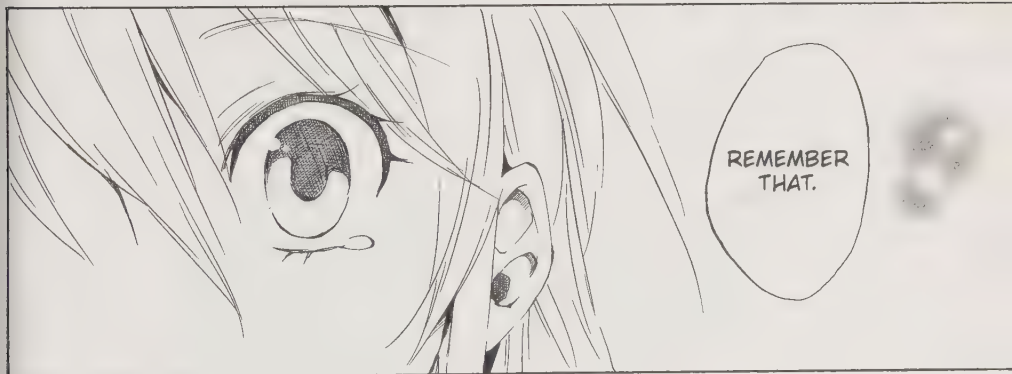


.....
I...WOULD
BE INCA-
PABLE OF
LIVING WITH
SOMEONE
I FOUND
ANNOYING.



ANY-
WAY...

...YOU
DON'T
HAVE TO
LEAVE IF
YOU DON'T
WANT TO.



REMEMBER
THAT.

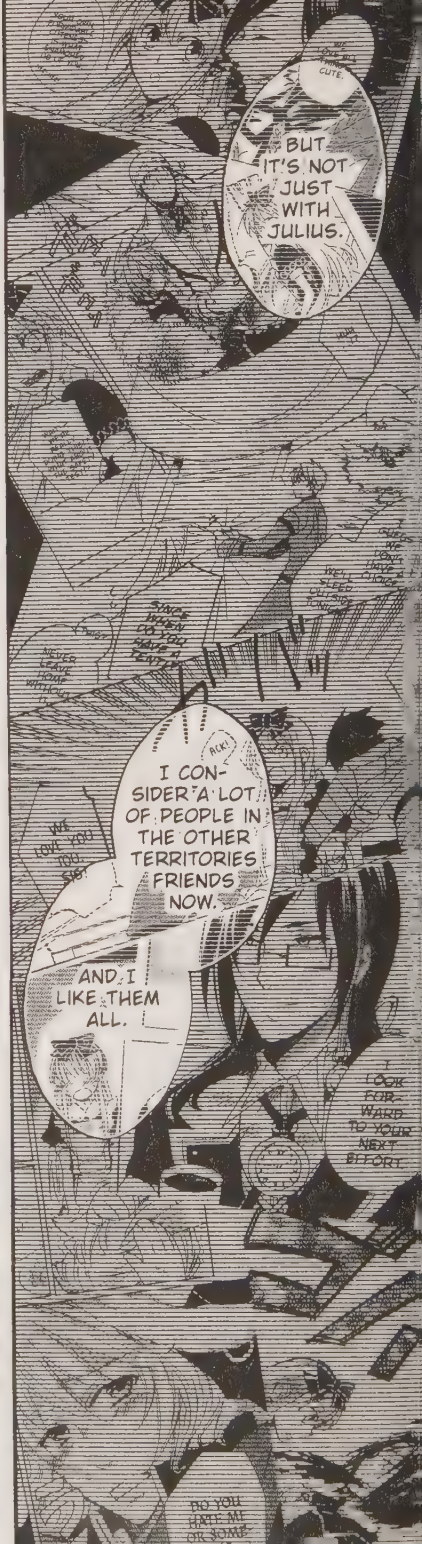


THAT'S
GOOD,
THEN...



OH.

UM...
OKAY.





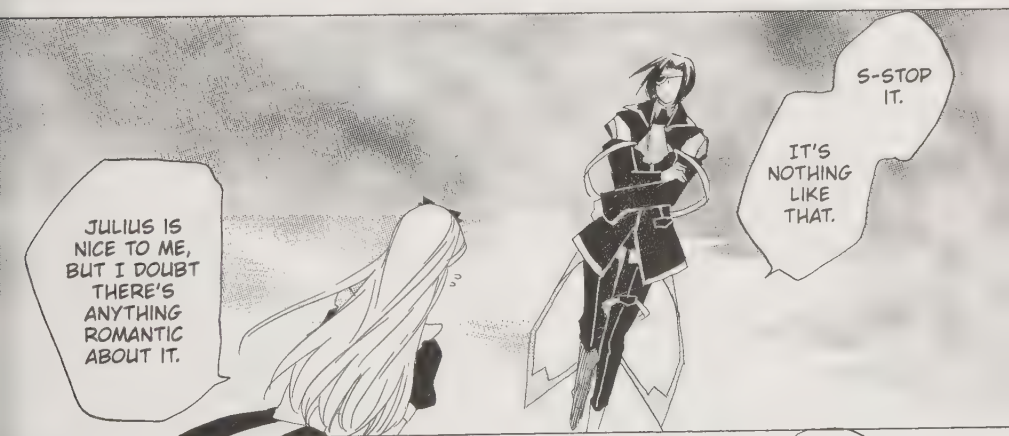
HUH
...?

YOUR
FEELINGS FOR
HIM COULD
GROW TOO...
AND THINGS
MIGHT GO
WELL...

IF HE
HAS
FEELINGS
FOR YOU,
HE SHOULD
SAY IT
OUTRIGHT.

WHAT A
WASTE.

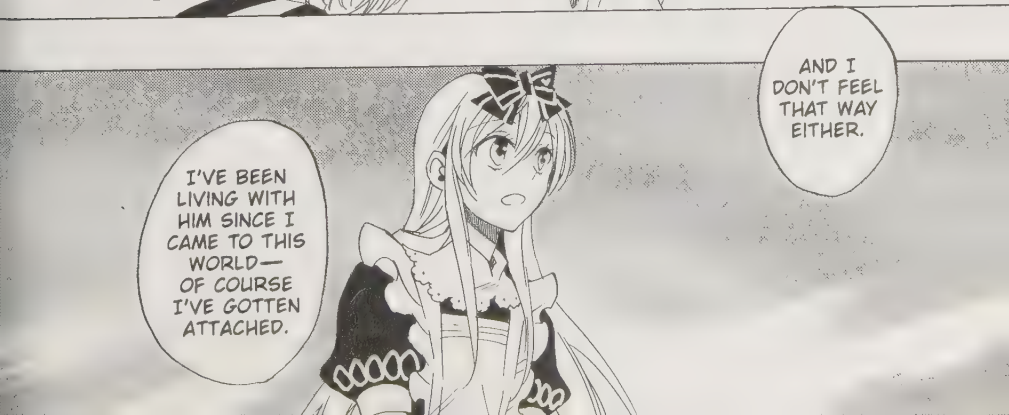
A
WASTE?



JULIUS IS
NICE TO ME,
BUT I DOUBT
THERE'S
ANYTHING
ROMANTIC
ABOUT IT.

S-STOP
IT.

IT'S
NOTHING
LIKE
THAT.



I'VE BEEN
LIVING WITH
HIM SINCE I
CAME TO THIS
WORLD—
OF COURSE
I'VE GOTTEN
ATTACHED.

AND I
DON'T FEEL
THAT WAY
EITHER.



YOU
SEEM TO
BE FINDING
YOUR PLACE
IN THIS
WORLD.

ALICE.



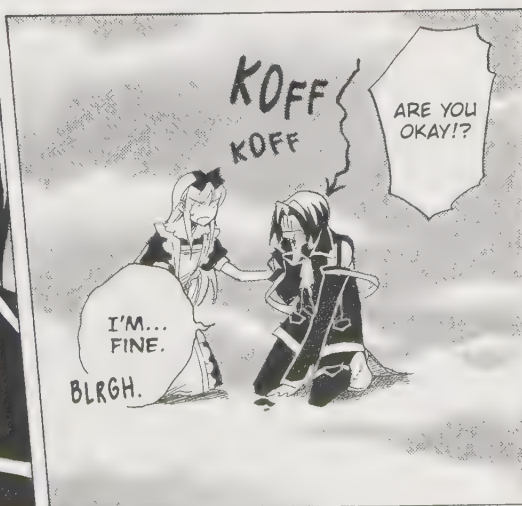
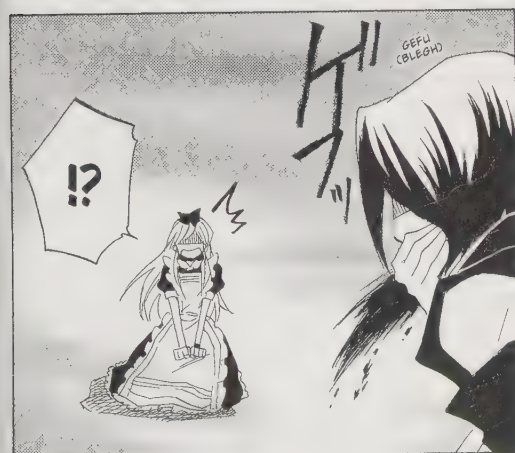
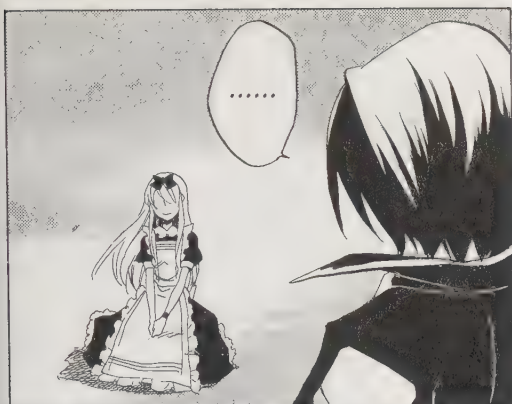
EVEN IF
IT MEANS
LOSING ALL
THAT...

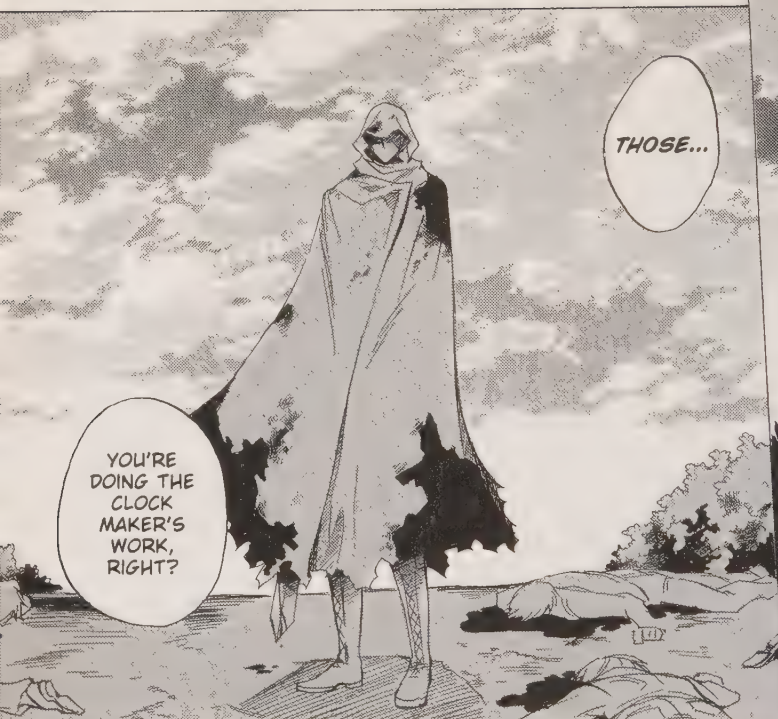
...DO YOU
STILL WANT
TO GO
HOME?

YOU'VE
MADE YOUR
FRIENDS...

...AND
YOU'RE
ENJOYING
EVERY
DAY WITH
THEM.

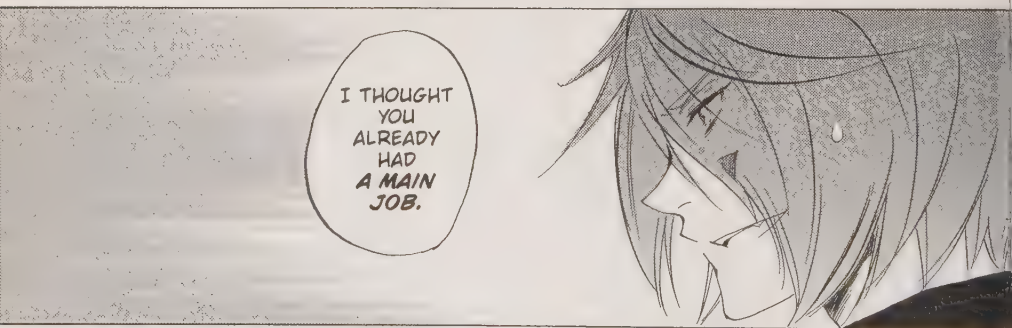
YOU HAVE
A PLACE
WHERE
YOU FEEL
COMFORT-
ABLE.



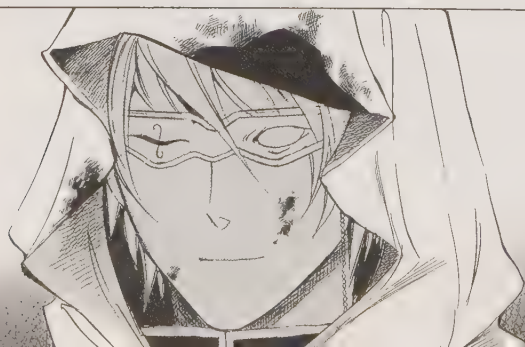


THOSE...

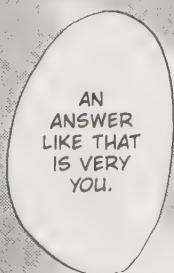
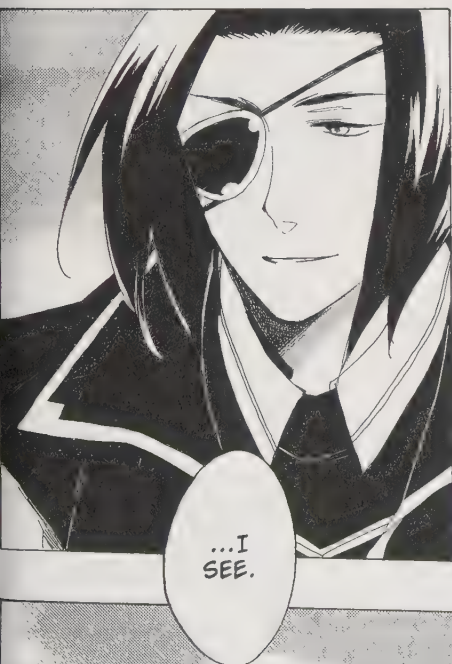
YOU'RE
DOING THE
CLOCK
MAKER'S
WORK,
RIGHT?



I THOUGHT
YOU
ALREADY
HAD
A MAIN
JOB.

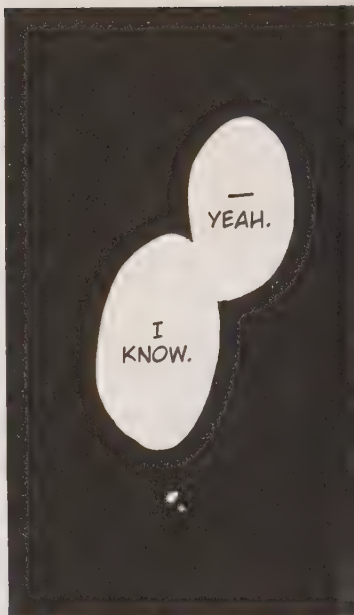


NOT THAT
I'M GONNA
RAT YOU OUT
TO YOUR
BOSS OR
ANYTHING.





THAT'S
THE
RULE.



—
YEAH.

I
KNOW.



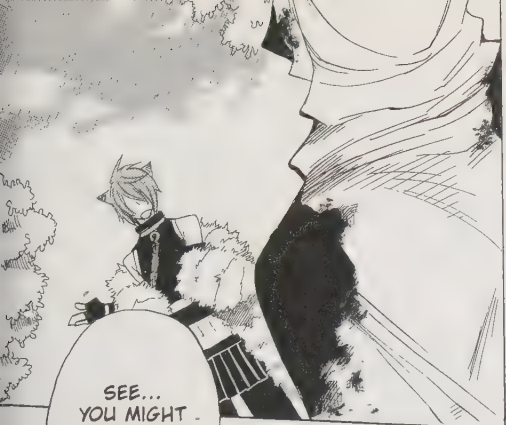
NOBODY
CAN *SEE*
ME...

...WHEN
I'M DOING
SOMETHING
THAT'S NOT
MY PROPER
ROLE.



XXXX
KACHA
(CHAKO)

THAT'S
WHY THERE'S
NO POINT FOR
ME TO WEAR
THE MASK.

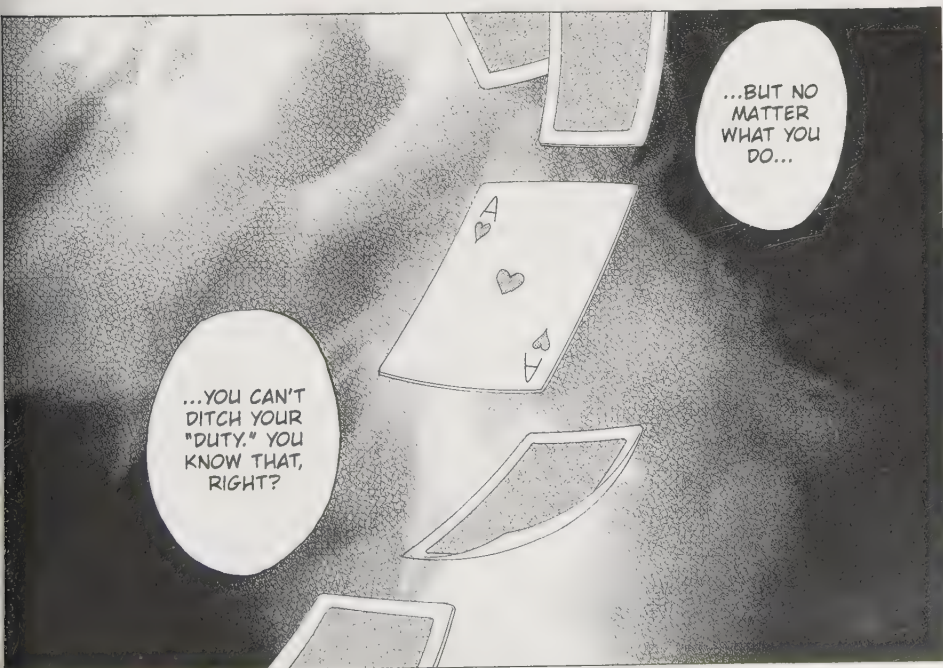


SEE...
YOU MIGHT
HATE YOUR
REGULAR
GIG...



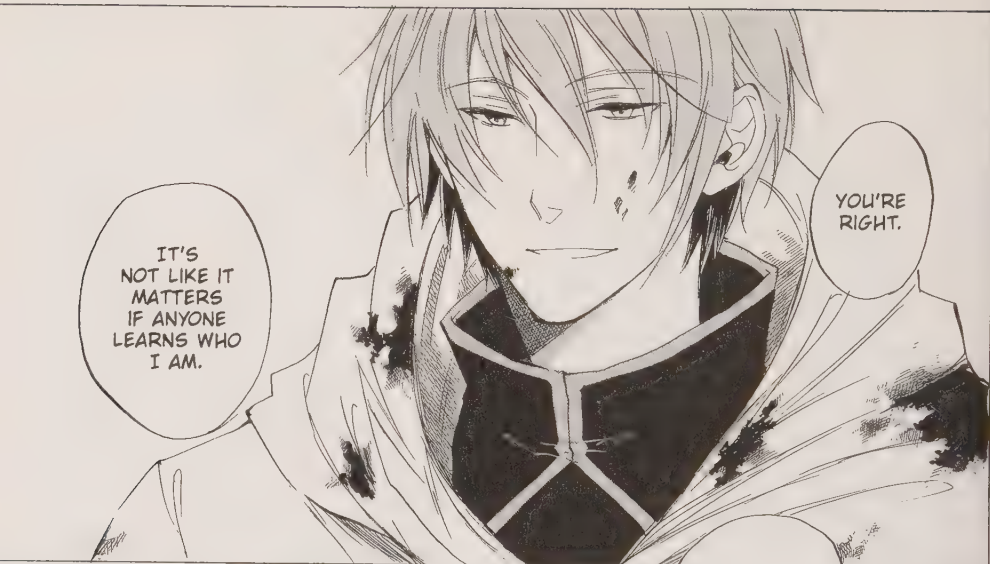
EVEN IF I
DID, YOU'D
NEVER GET
CANNED.

SO WHY
BOTHER?



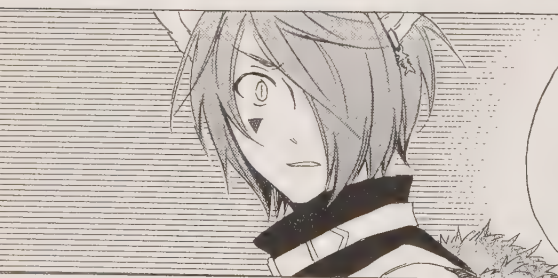
...BUT NO
MATTER
WHAT YOU
DO...

...YOU CAN'T
DITCH YOUR
"DUTY." YOU
KNOW THAT,
RIGHT?



IT'S
NOT LIKE IT
MATTERS
IF ANYONE
LEARNS WHO
I AM.

YOU'RE
RIGHT.



I HAVE
TO GET
BACK TO
THE CLOCK
TOWER.

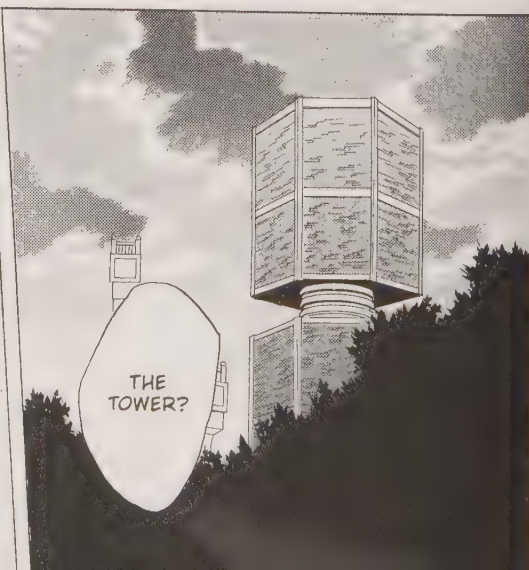
ANYWAY,
I DON'T
HAVE TIME
TO HANG
AROUND
HERE.



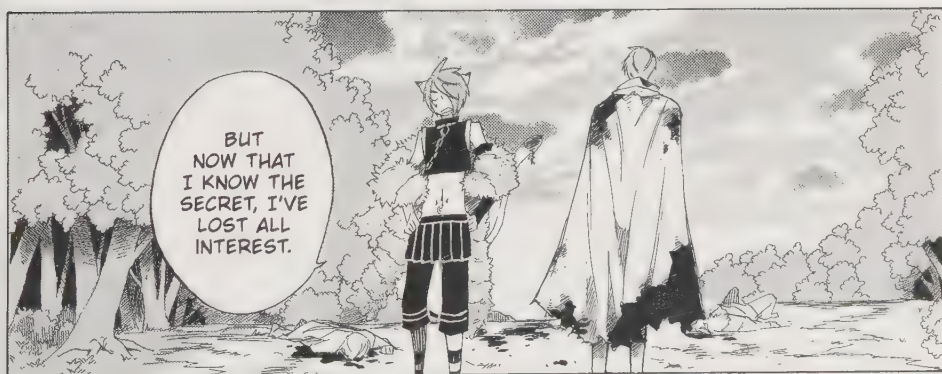
WHY!?

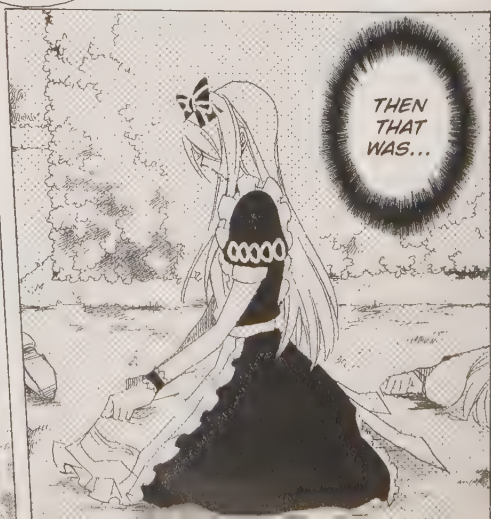
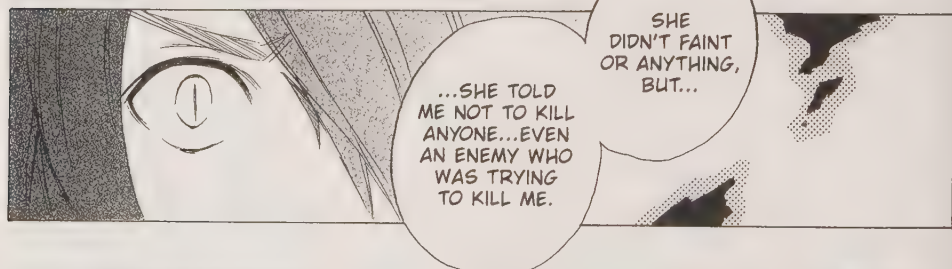
WHAT DO
YOU MEAN,
WHY? I'M
HELPING
OUT
THERE.

I NEED
TO
REPORT
BACK.



THE
TOWER?





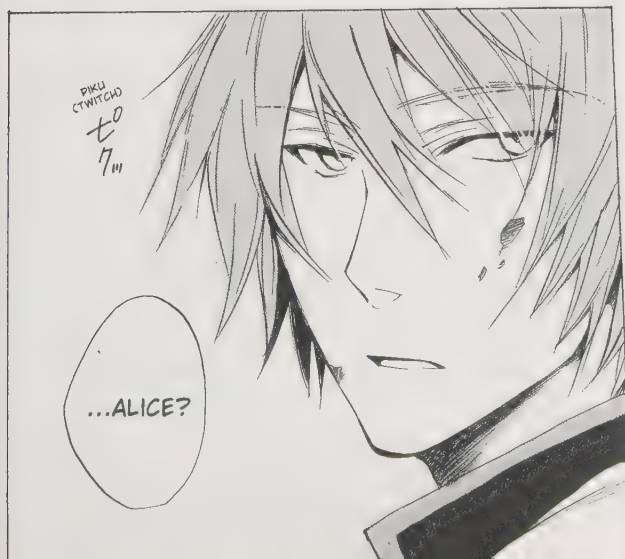


LIFE IS
PRECIOUS.



YOU
CAN'T.

ALICE IS
ASLEEP
RIGHT
NOW.

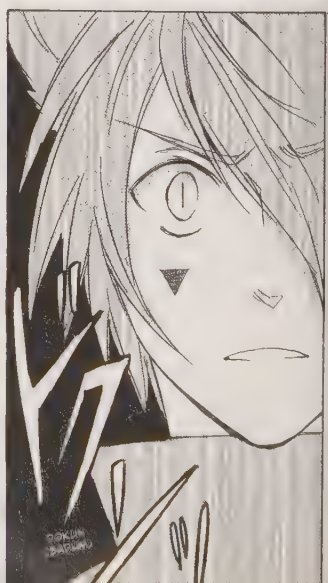
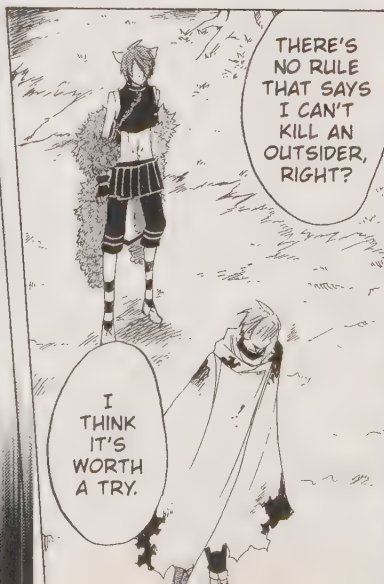


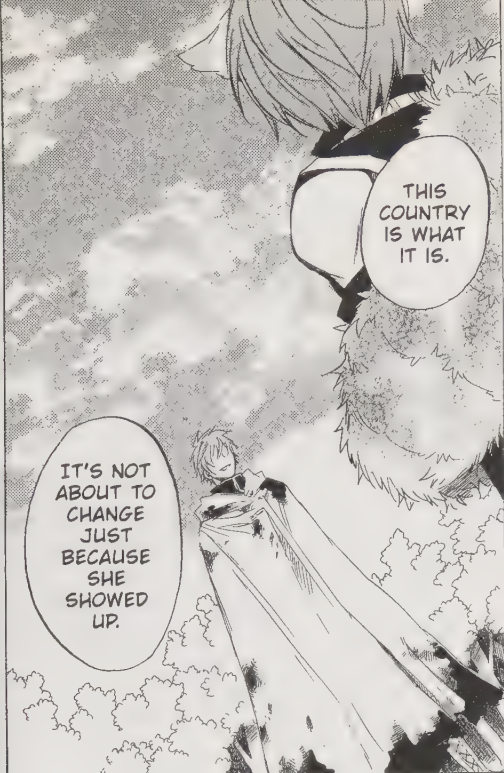
PRU
TWITCHD
to
7₁₁

...ALICE?

NO,
I MEAN...
YOU'RE
GOING
DRESSED
LIKE THAT
...?







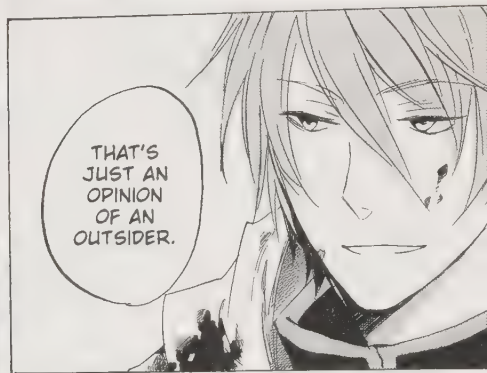
THIS COUNTRY IS WHAT IT IS.

IT'S NOT ABOUT TO CHANGE JUST BECAUSE SHE SHOWED UP.

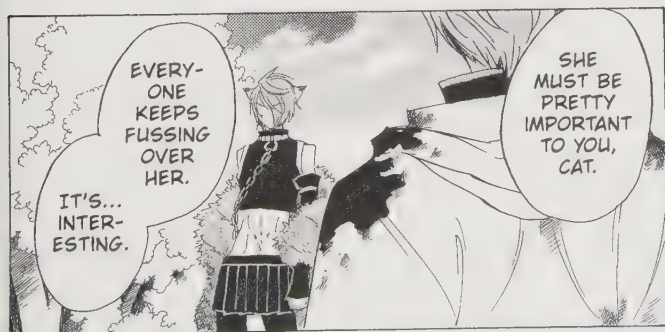


WHY WOULD YOU DO THAT TO HER?!

ALICE ISN'T LIKE US—SHE THINKS LIFE IS IMPORTANT.



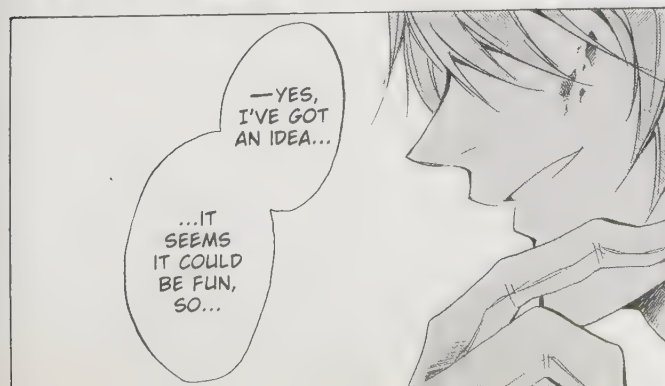
THAT'S JUST AN OPINION OF AN OUTSIDER.



EVERY-ONE KEEPS FUSSING OVER HER.

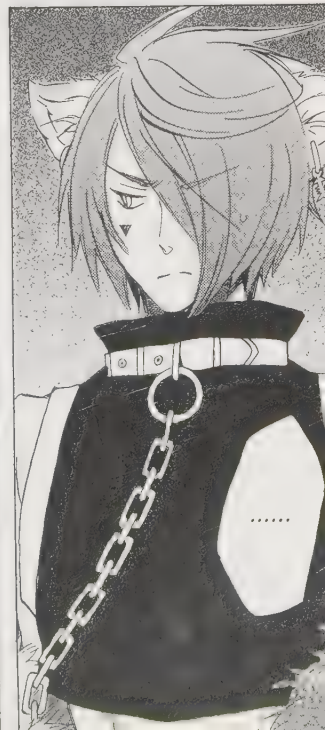
IT'S... INTERESTING.

SHE MUST BE PRETTY IMPORTANT TO YOU, CAT.



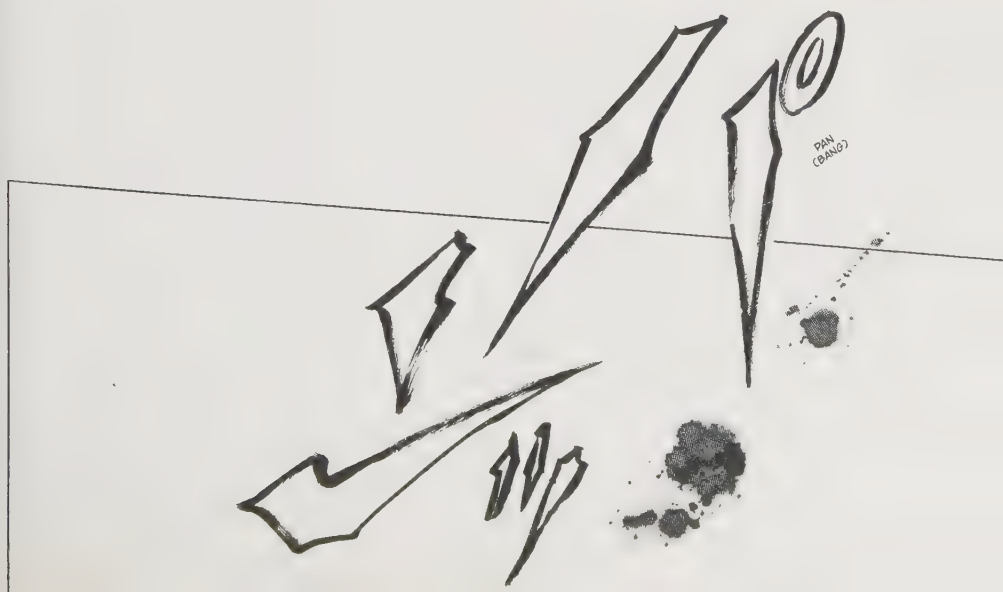
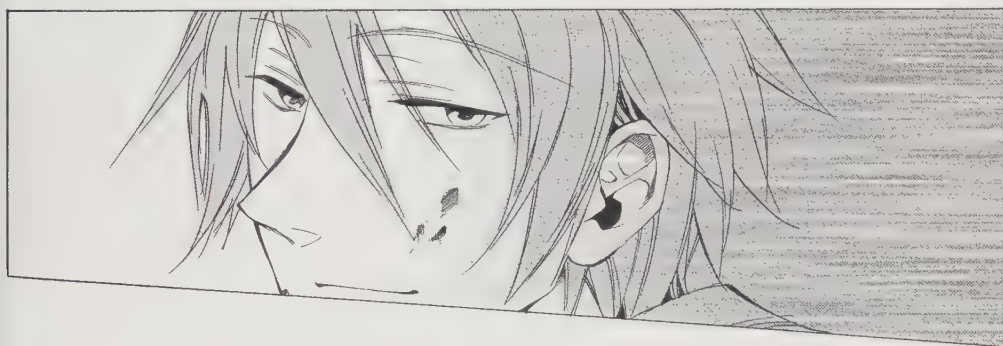
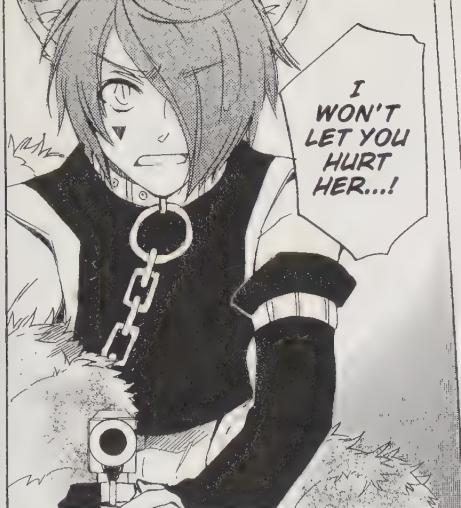
—YES, I'VE GOT AN IDEA...

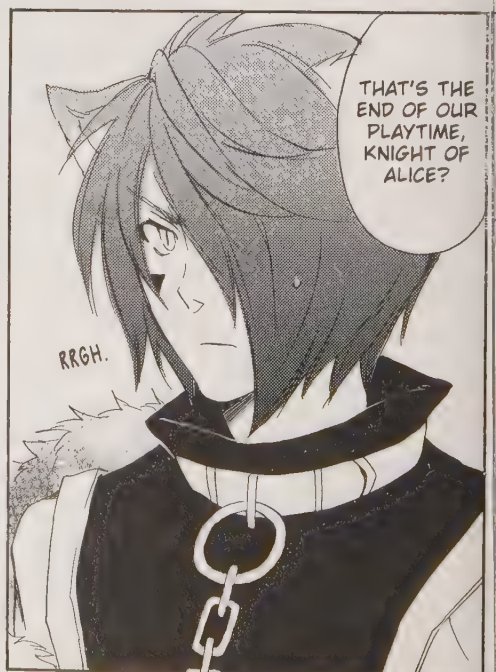
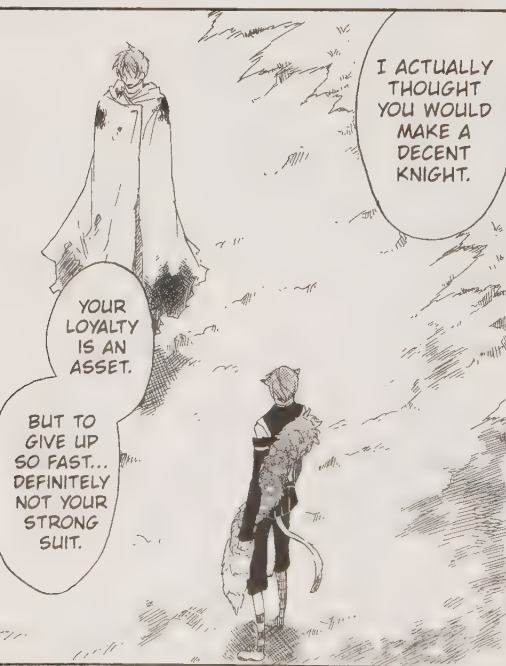
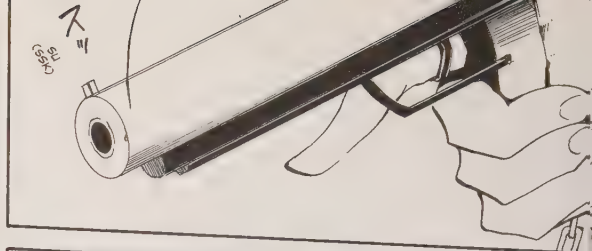
...IT SEEMS IT COULD BE FUN, SO...



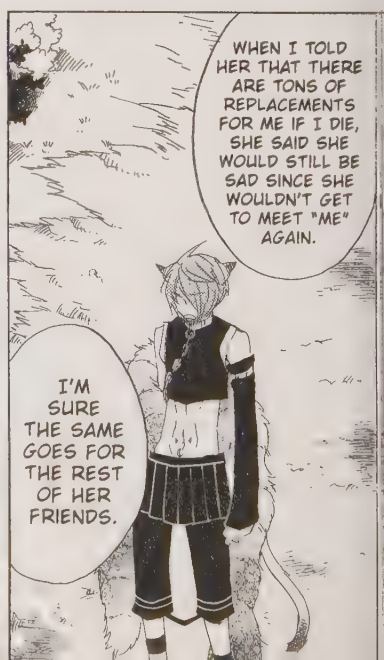
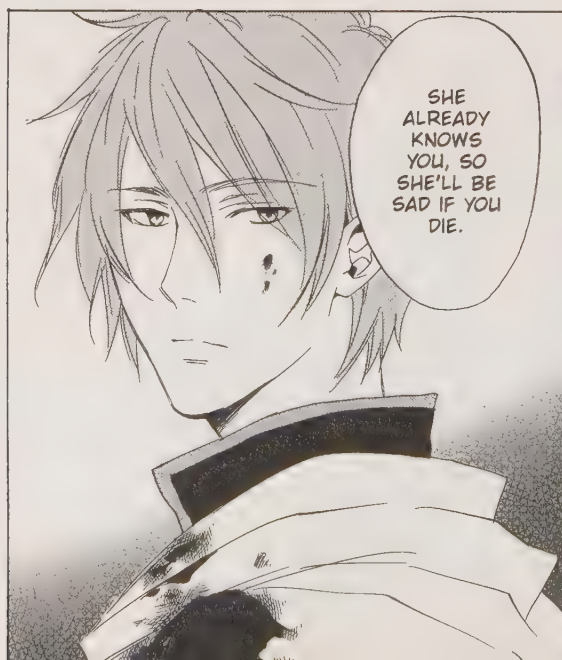
♥21 Knight

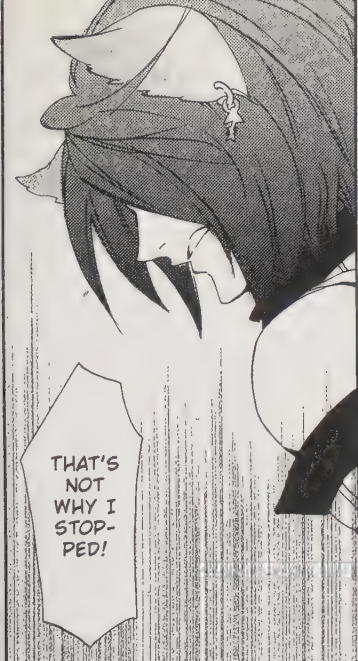










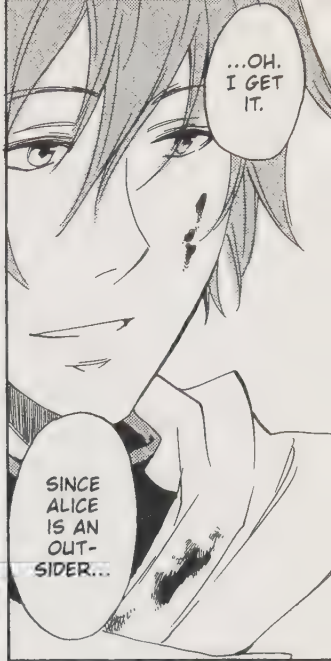


THAT'S
NOT
WHY I
STOP-
PED!



...THE
GAME
KEEPS
GOING
WITH OR
WITHOUT
HER.

SO
THERE'S
NO NEED
TO
PROTECT
HER.



...OH.
I GET
IT.

SINCE
ALICE
IS AN
OUT-
SIDER...



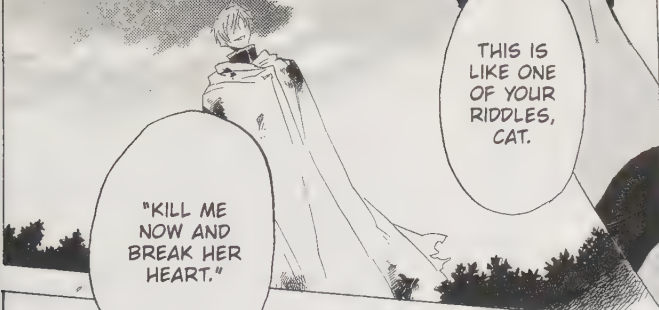
HEH.



ALICE...

...WOULD
BE SAD IF
YOU DIED...





"KILL ME
NOW AND
BREAK HER
HEART."

THIS IS
LIKE ONE
OF YOUR
RIDDLES,
CAT.



"LET ME
LIVE AND
ALLOW HER
TO DIE."

WHAT
WILL YOU
CHOOSE?

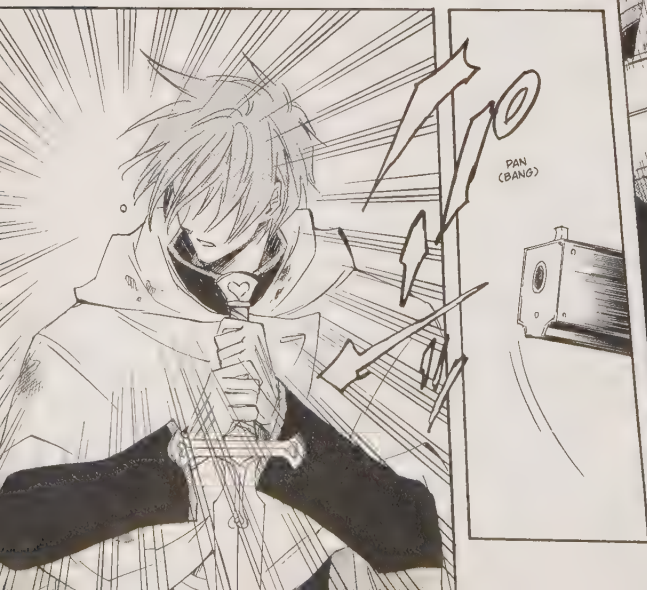
...THEN...

...WHICH
WILL BE
BETTER
FOR ALICE?

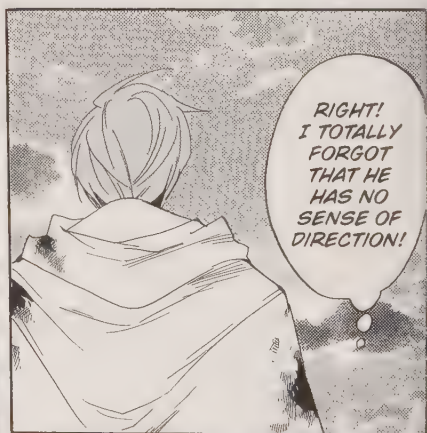


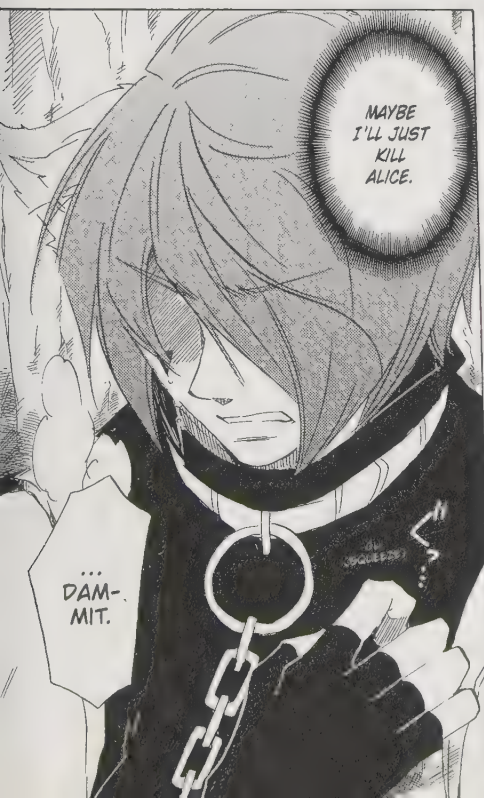
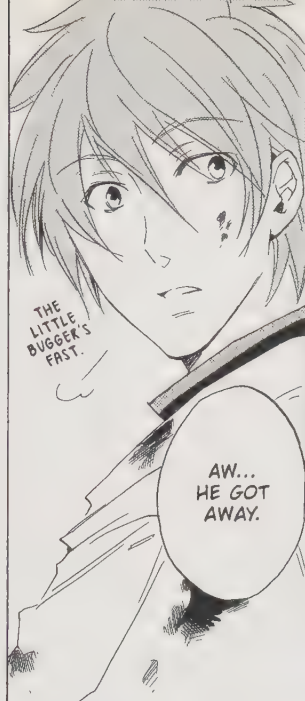
NEITHER.

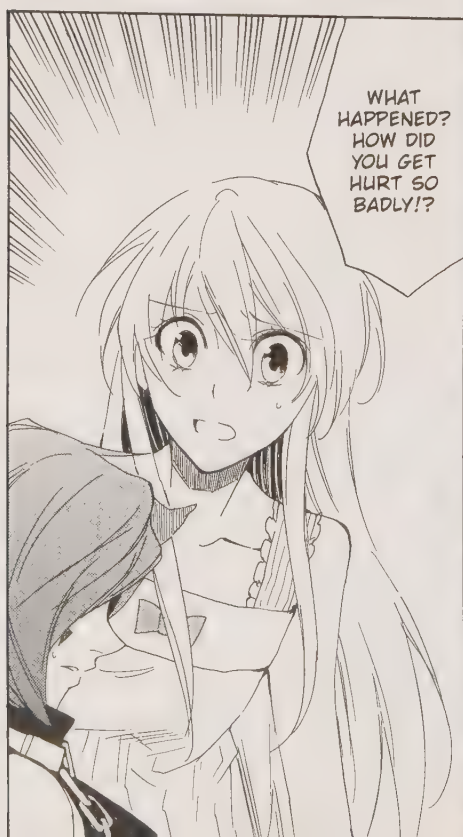
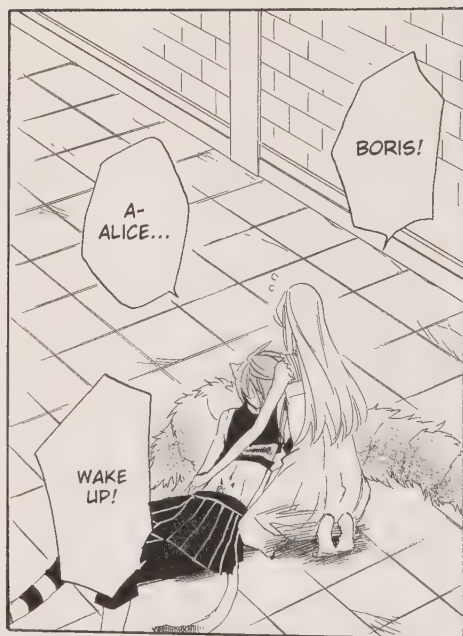
I WON'T
KILL YOU
OR LET
ALICE DIE.

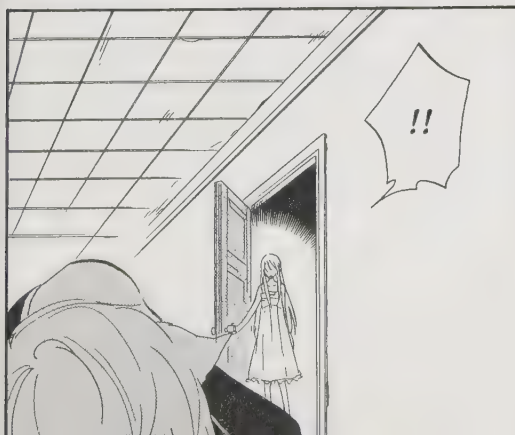
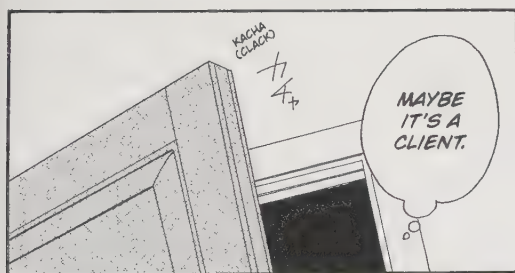


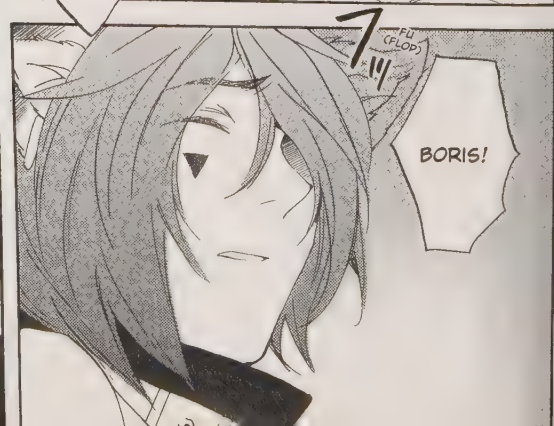
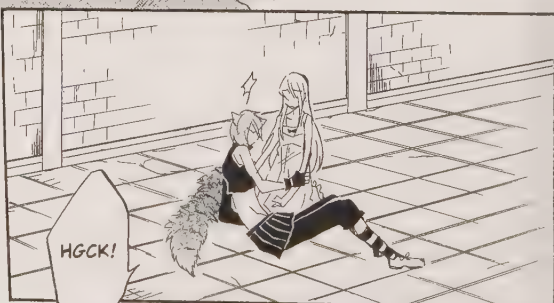
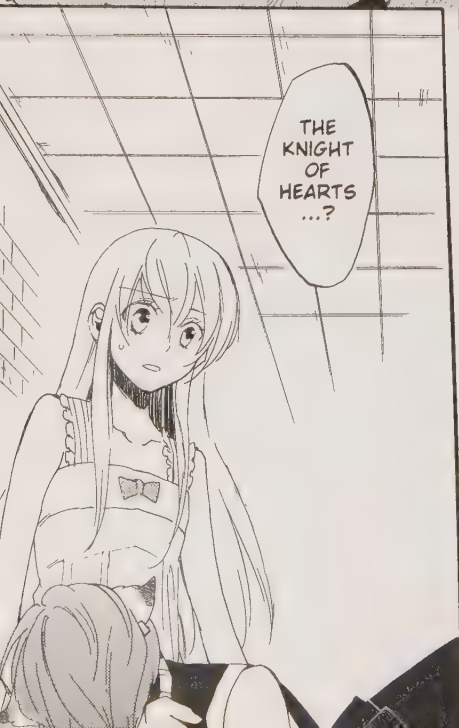
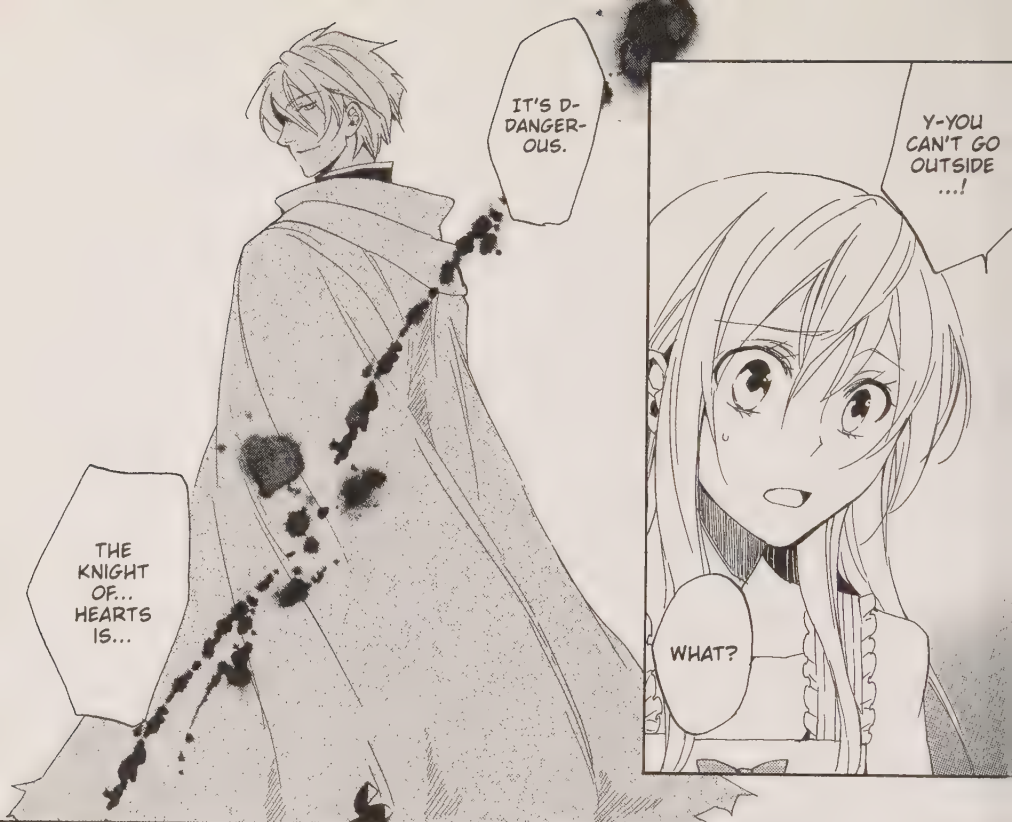














I
PROMISED
YOU I'D
BE MORE
CAREFUL...

I
D-DIDN'T
MEAN TO
MAKE YOU...
MAD...

I'M S-
SORRY...
ALICE.



GU
(GRAB)

YOU
CAN'T.



I'M
GOING
TO GET
YOU A
DOCTOR.

WAIT
RIGHT
HERE
FOR...

IDIOT!

THERE'S
NO TIME
FOR ME
TO GET
MAD!

WHAT
ARE YOU
SAYING
AT A
TIME
LIKE
THIS!?

♥22 Coming Uneasiness

LOOKIE,
LOOKIE,
BROTHER!

FLOWERS!

WOOOOW.

COOL,
BROTHER!

YEAH—
IT'LL GET
CAUGHT IN
THE DRAINS
AND STUFF!

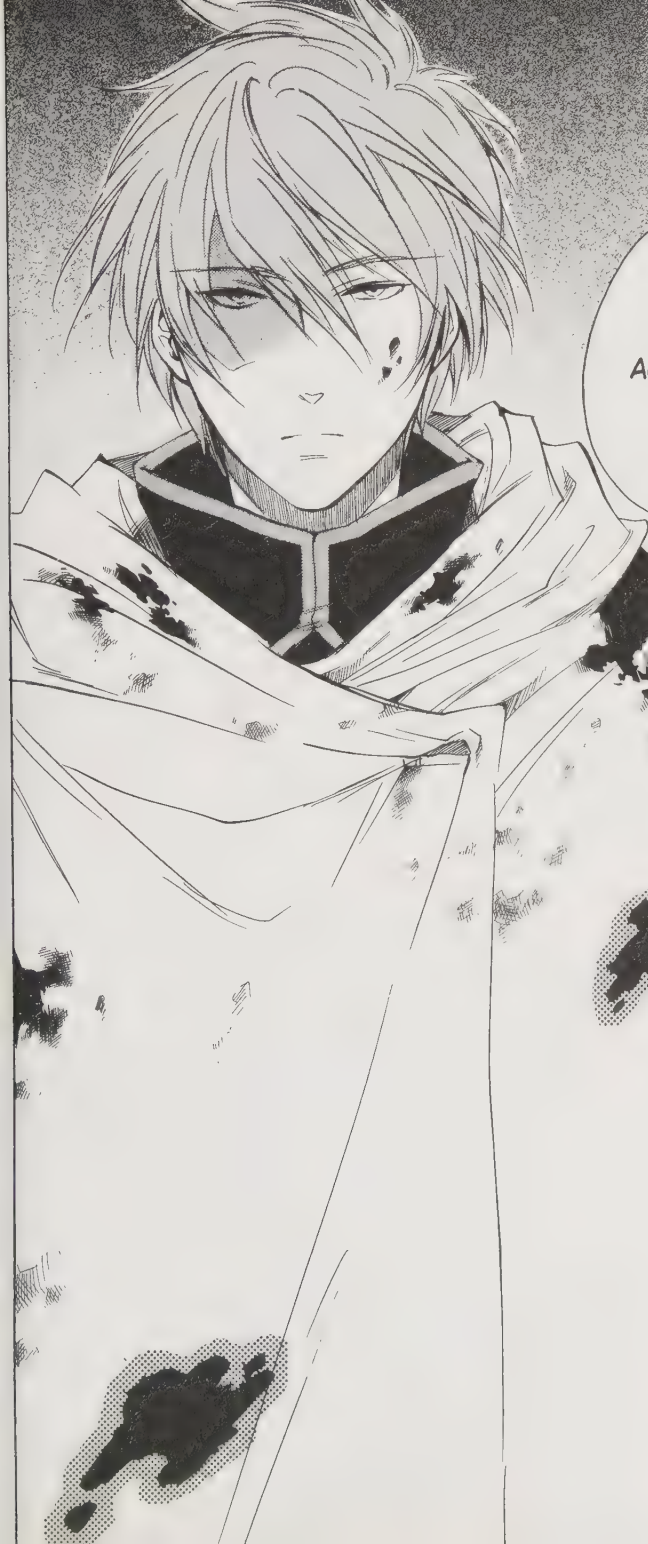
THIS IS
GONNA MAKE
IT REEEEL
HARD FOR THE
JANITORS TO
CLEAN THE
BATH.

WA-HA-
HA!

—AH,
HELL.

YEAH!

IT'S
FUNNY
'COS IT'S
NOT OUR
JOB!



ACE...?

4.

YEAH!

YOU
HEARD
THE
BOSS!!

PIPE
DOWN!

...SHUT UP,
ELLIOT.

IT APPLIES
TO YOU
TOO.

ZABA
(SPLASH)



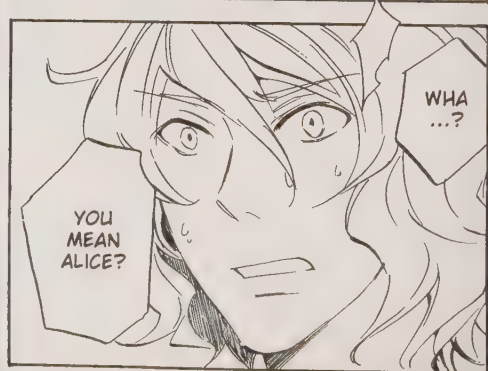
BATHING
...

...WITH
ALICE
...!?



WE'D
RATHER WASH
WITH BIG SIS
THAN WITH THE
STUPID BUNNY
AND HIS STUPID
BRAIN. RIGHT,
BROTHER?

WE
DON'T LIKE
WASHIN' WITH
A BUNCH
GUYS
EITHER.



YOU
MEAN
ALICE?

WHA
...?



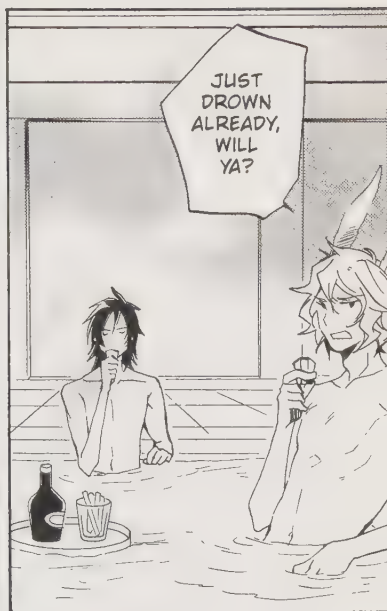
LET ME
RELAX IN
PEACE.

I'M
REALLY
TIRED
AFTER ALL
THE WORK
I HAD TO
TAKE CARE
OF.



YEAH,
DRUNK
RABBIT—
IF YOU
DON'T
LIKE IT,
GO AWAY.

SHUT UP,
DRUNK
RABBIT!



JUST
DROWN
ALREADY,
WILL
YA?



AN' YOUR
STUPID
BRAIN'S
GONNA MELT
IF YOU SPEND
TOO LONG IN
THE BATH,
BUNNY! GO
AWAY!

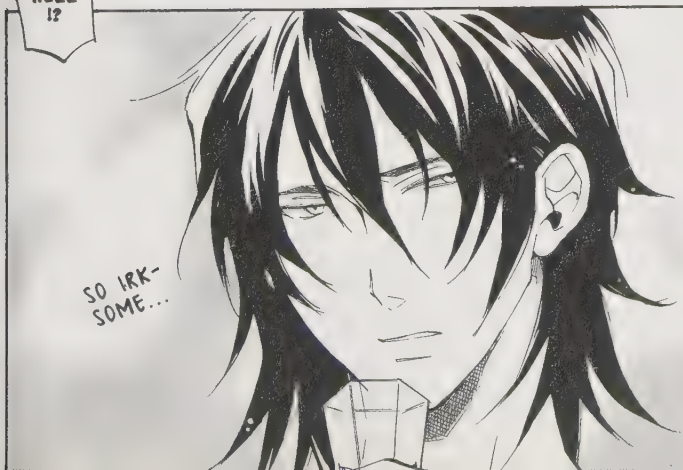
YEAH!

NUH-
UH!
FIRST IN
HASTA
BE FIRST
OUT.

WHAT
THE
HELL
IS?

I WAS
HERE BEFORE
YOU LITTLE
WRETCHES
CANNONBALLED
IN!

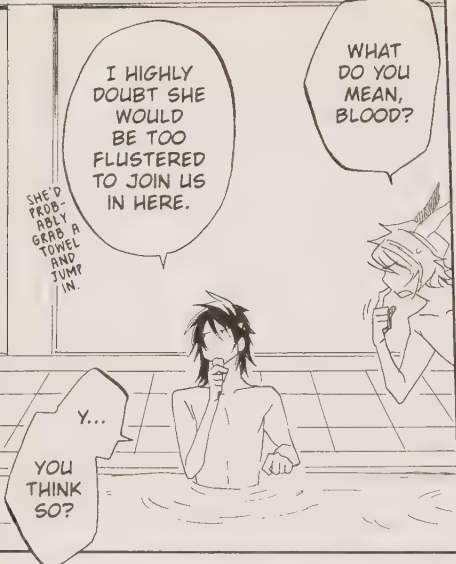
IF ANYONE'S
GETTING
OUT, IT'S
YOU!



SO IRK-
SOME...

THIS
BATH IS
MISERABLE
ENOUGH WITH
FOUR MEN IN
IT—YOU'RE
ONLY MAKING
IT WORSE.

KEEP
IT DOWN.
ALL OF
YOU.



I HIGHLY DOUBT SHE WOULD BE TOO FLUSTERED TO JOIN US IN HERE.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, BLOOD?

SHE'D PROBABLY GRAB A TOWEL AND JUMP IN.

Y...

YOU THINK SO?



I WONDER.

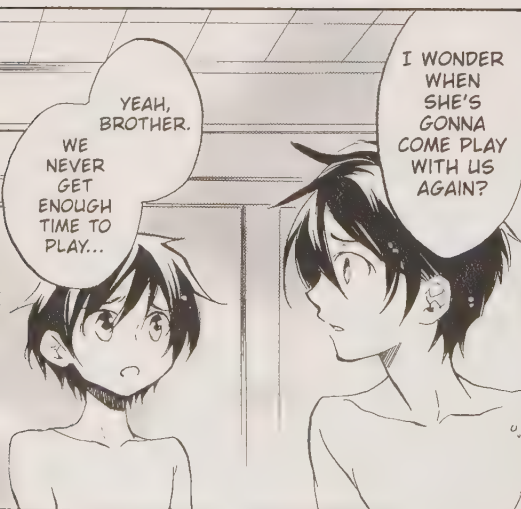
THAT YOUNG WOMAN ISN'T AS PURE HEARTED AS YOU THINK, ELLIOT.



...HER SPECIALTY IS SEDUCING EVERY MAN SHE RUNS INTO.

AFTER ALL...

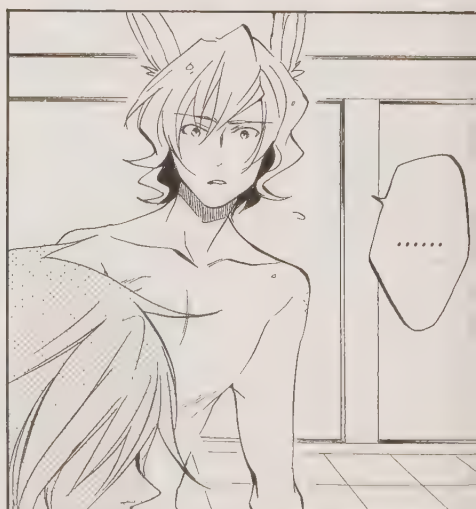
HNN.



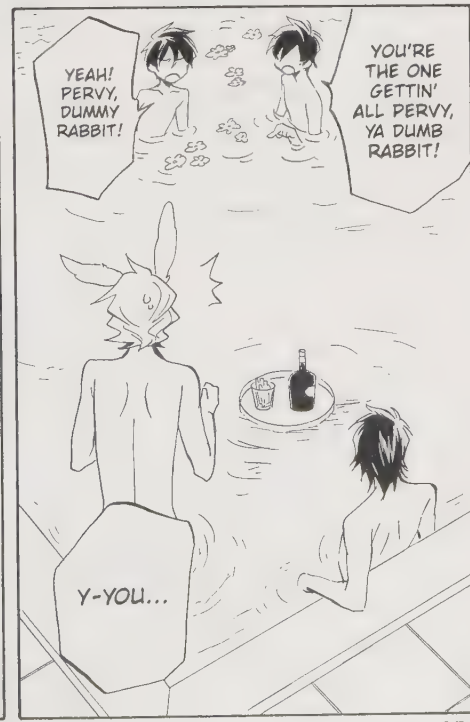
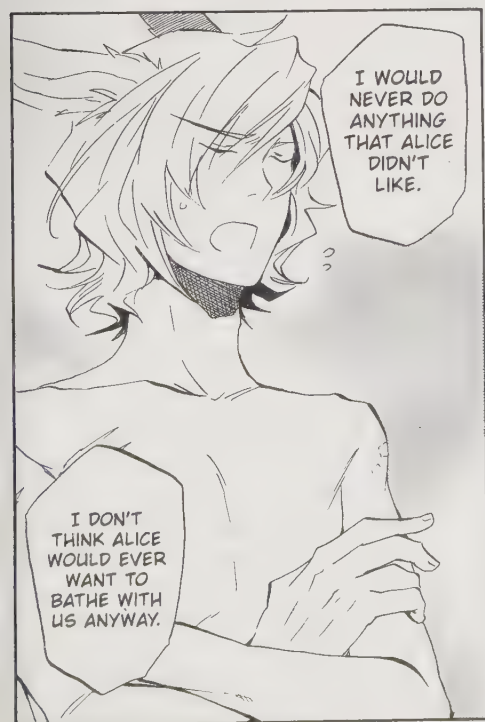
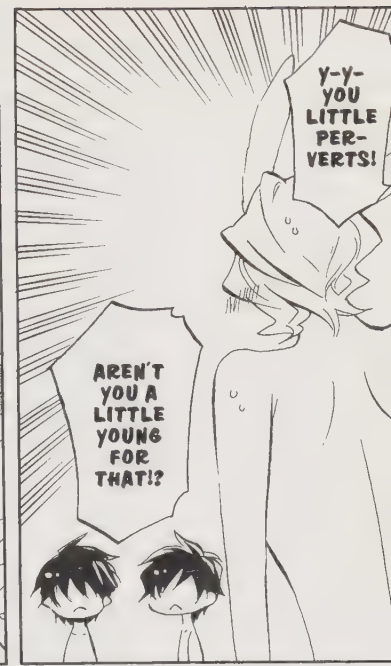
YEAH, BROTHER.

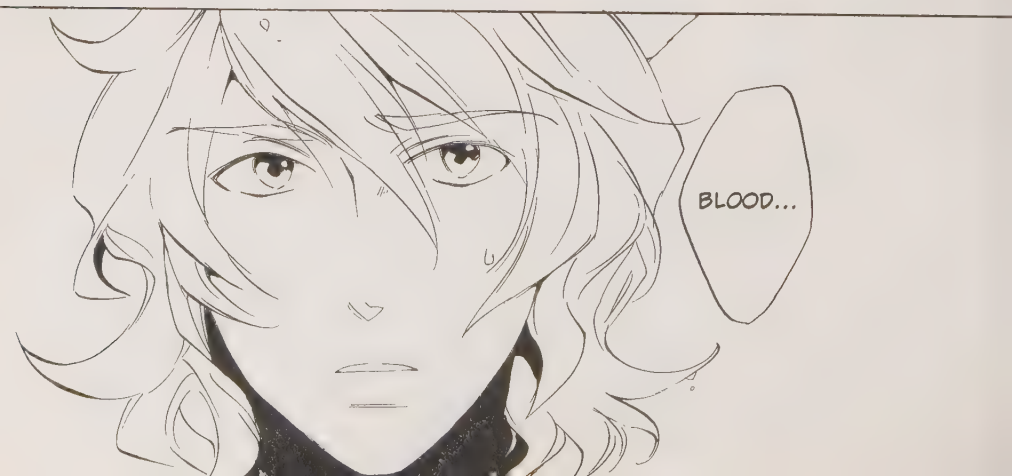
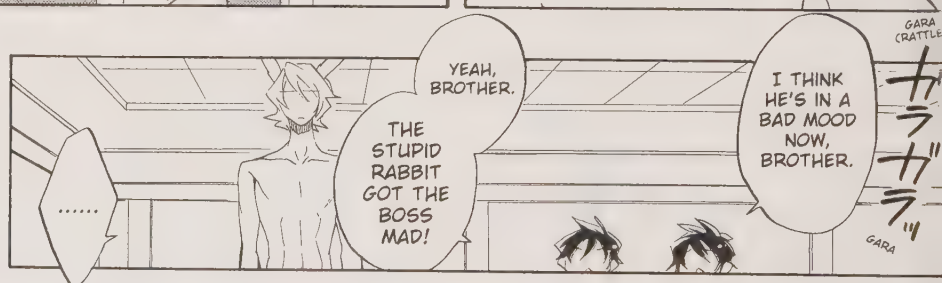
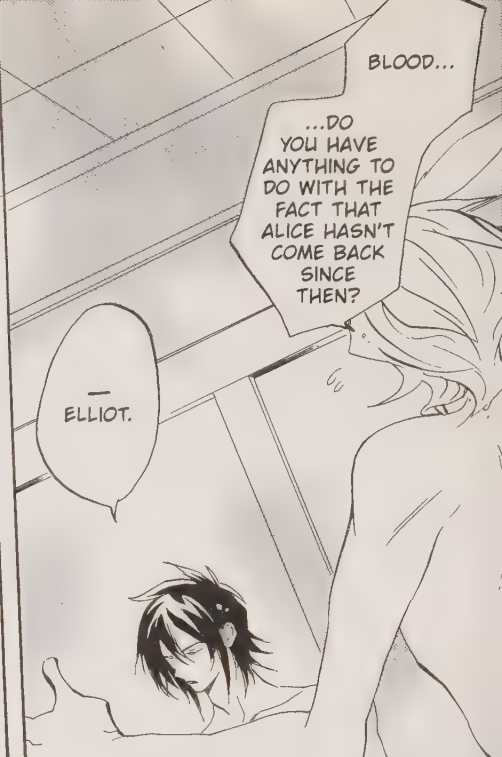
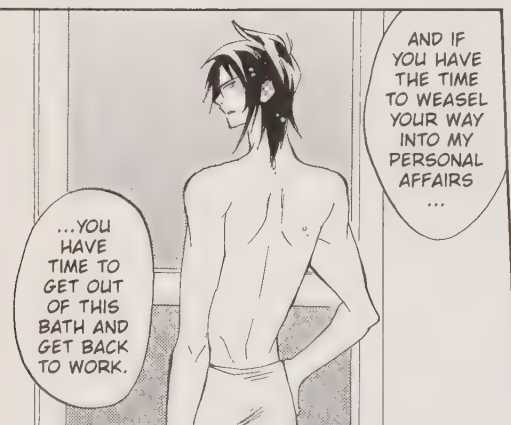
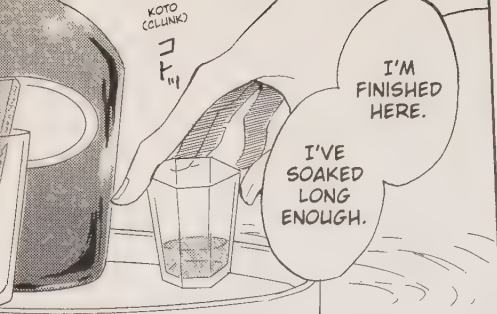
WE NEVER GET ENOUGH TIME TO PLAY...

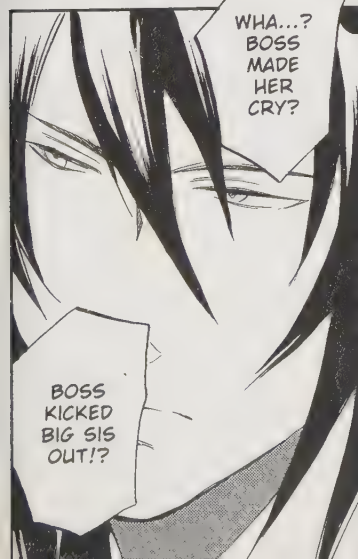
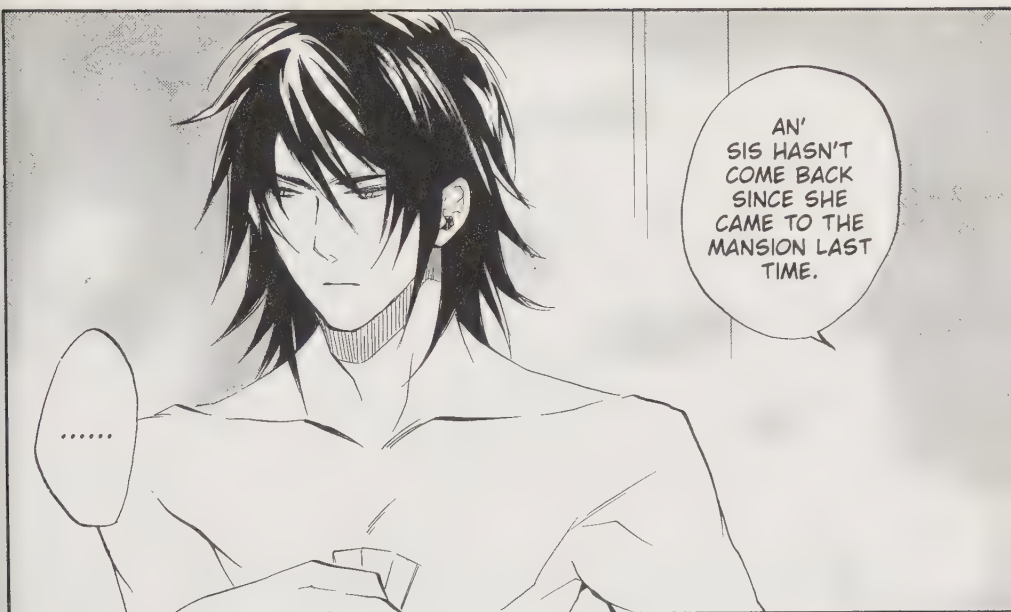
I WONDER WHEN SHE'S GONNA COME PLAY WITH US AGAIN?

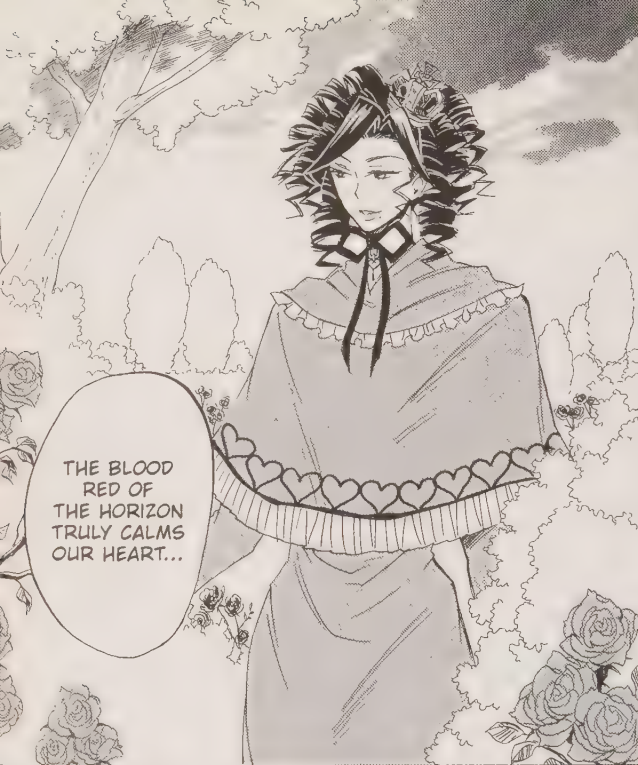


.....





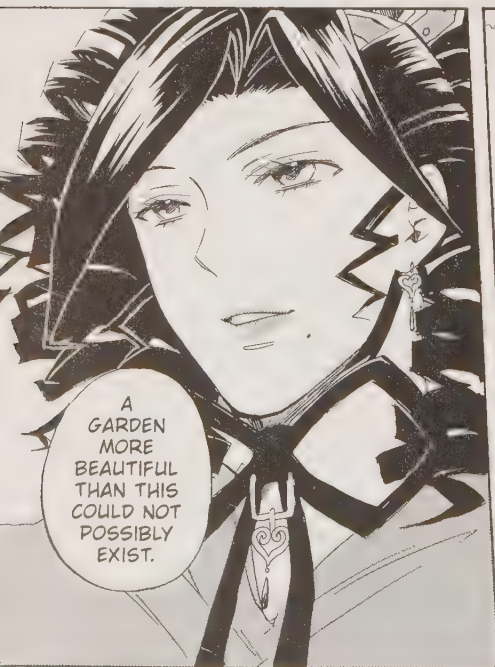




THE BLOOD
RED OF
THE HORIZON
TRULY CALMS
OUR HEART...



AH...WE
REALLY
DO ENJOY
EVENINGS
THE MOST.



A
GARDEN
MORE
BEAUTIFUL
THAN THIS
COULD NOT
POSSIBLY
EXIST.



PAINTED
WITH SUCH
COLORS...
THEY POUR
PERPETUAL
EVENING
INTO THIS
GARDEN.

HOW
BEAUTI-
FUL
THEY
ARE.

AND
THESE
WONDER-
FUL ROSES
YOU HAVE
RAISED—



TO HAVE...
A MAN LIKE YOU
AS A LOVER...
POOR VIVALDI!

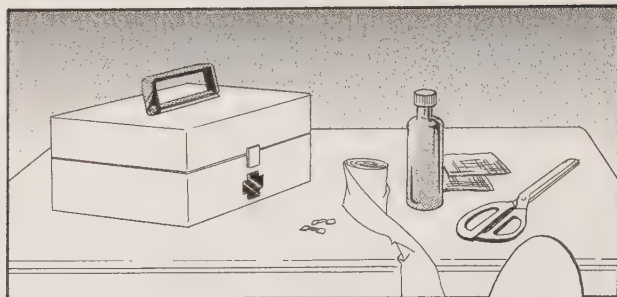
—
LOVER...
HUH?



YOU WERE
ALONE WITH
VIVALDI IN
YOUR ROSE
GARDEN!

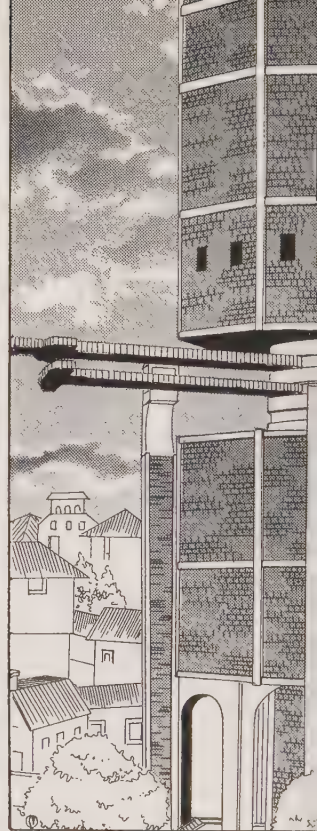


I SAW
YOU!



PHEW.

I THINK
I DID THE
BASIC
FIRST AID
RIGHT.

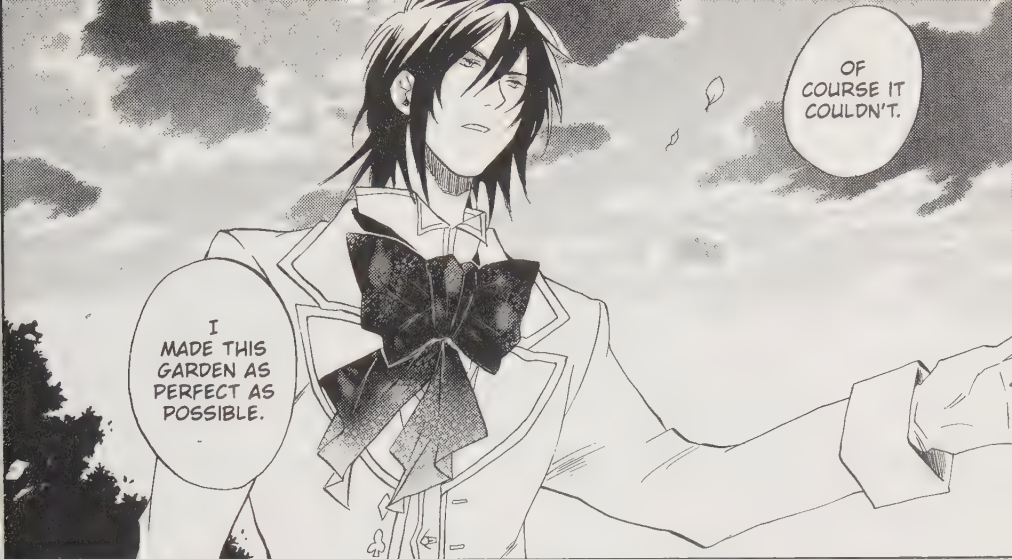


BUT
WHAT'S
GOING
ON?

Y-YOU
CAN'T GO
OUTSIDE
....

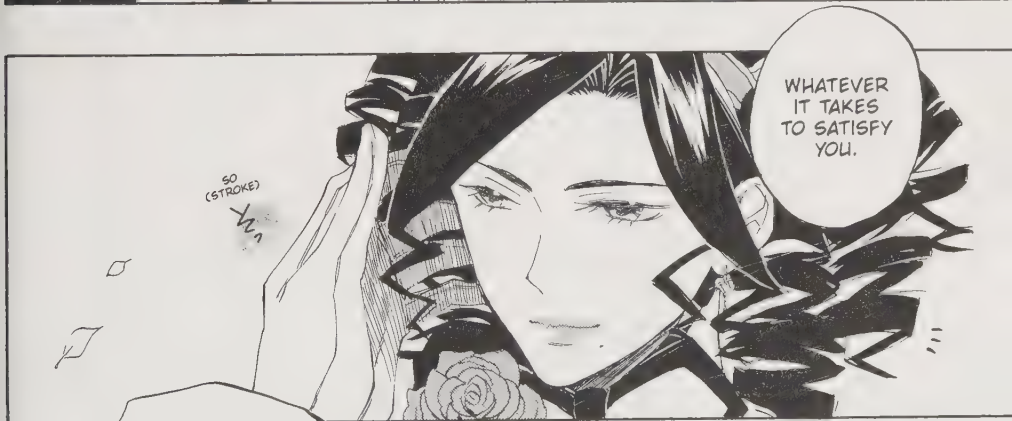
JULIUS
LEFT RIGHT
BEFORE I
WENT TO
BED.

I HOPE
HE GETS
BACK
SOON.



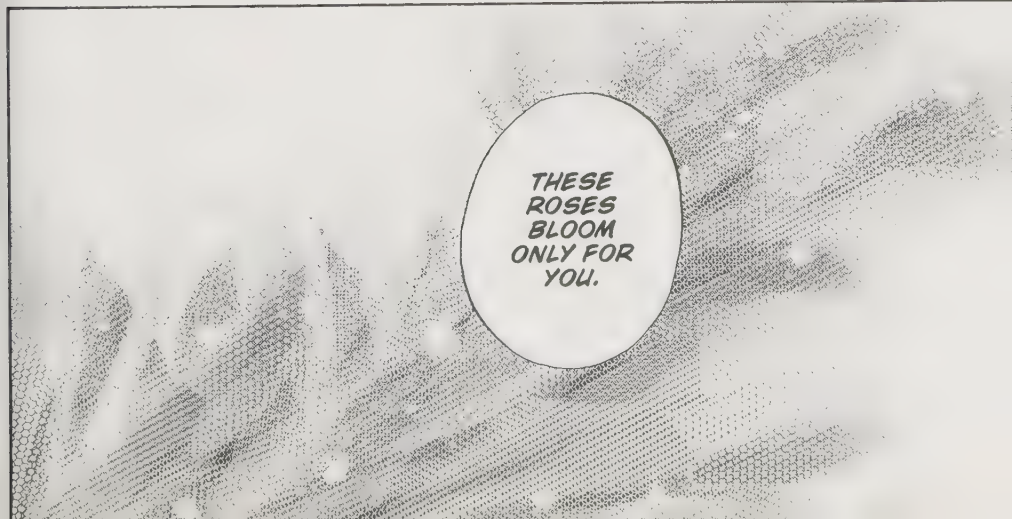
I
MADE THIS
GARDEN AS
PERFECT AS
POSSIBLE.

OF
COURSE IT
COULDN'T.



WHATEVER
IT TAKES
TO SATISFY
YOU.

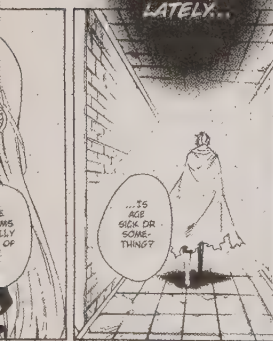
SO
(STROKE)



THESE
ROSES
BLOOM
ONLY FOR
YOU.



BUT
THERE
HAS BEEN
SOMETHING
WEIRD
ABOUT
HIM
LATELY...



...IS
ACE
SICK OR
SOME-
THING?



HE'S BEEN
LIKE THAT
FOR A
WHILE



LOSING
HIS WILL
BUT
NOT FOR
HIM...

N-NO
WAY. I
HAVE TO
CALM
DOWN.

I'M NOT
THINKING
RATION-
ALLY.



I'VE
SPENT
LOTS
OF TIME
WITH ACE,
AND HE NEVER...

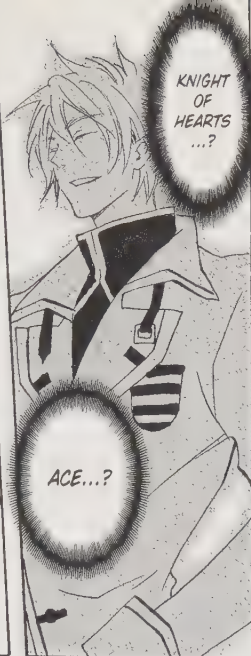


...ACE
MIGHT
WANT
TO
HURT
ME
TOO...?



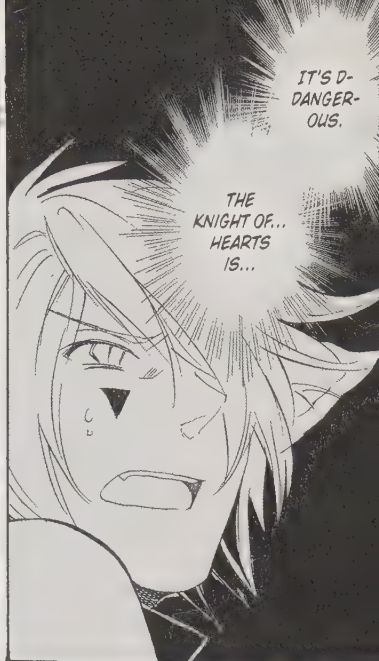
DID HE
MEAN
ACE IS
DANGER-
OUS—?

...NO
WAY.



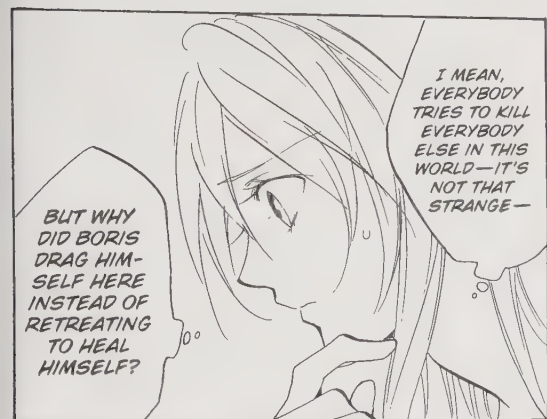
KNIGHT
OF
HEARTS
...?

ACE...?



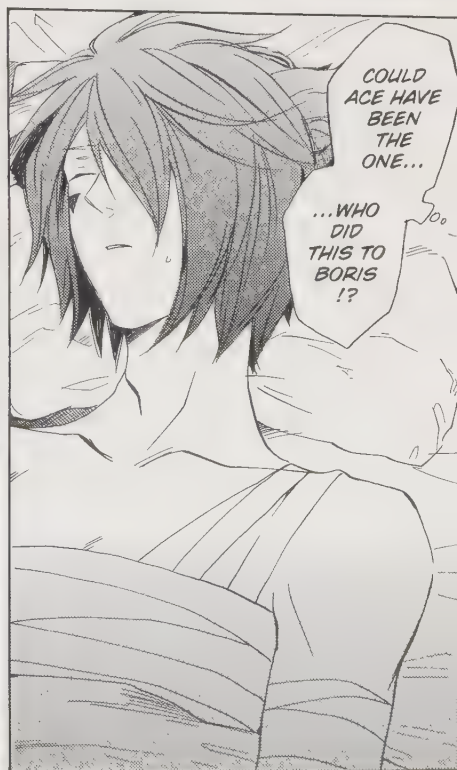
IT'S D-
DANGER-
OUS.

THE
KNIGHT OF...
HEARTS
IS...



BUT WHY
DID BORIS
DRAG HIM-
SELF HERE
INSTEAD OF
RETRACTING
TO HEAL
HIMSELF?

I MEAN,
EVERYBODY
TRIES TO KILL
EVERYBODY
ELSE IN THIS
WORLD—IT'S
NOT THAT
STRANGE—

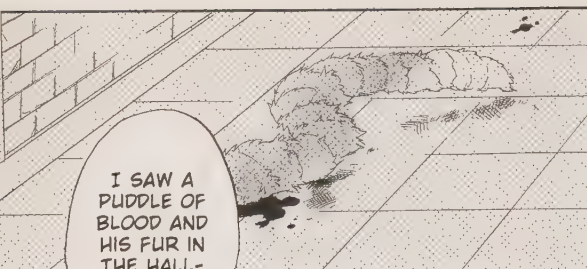


COULD
ACE HAVE
BEEN
THE
ONE...

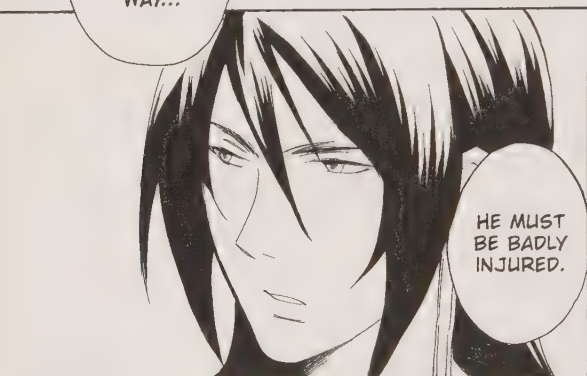
...WHO
DID
THIS TO
BORIS
!?

HE CAME
TO WARN
ME OF THE
"DANGER"?

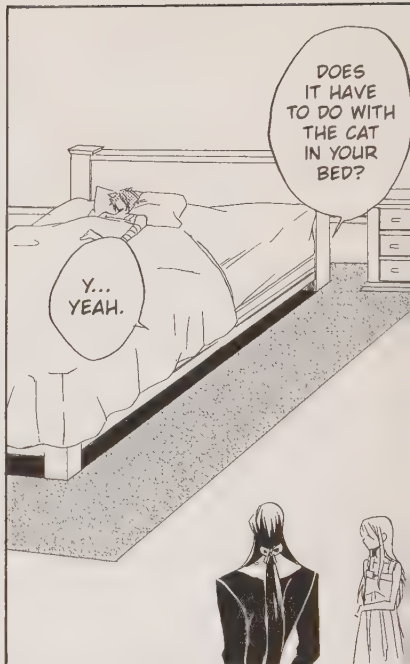
DOES THAT
MEAN...



I SAW A
PUDDLE OF
BLOOD AND
HIS FUR IN
THE HALL-
WAY...

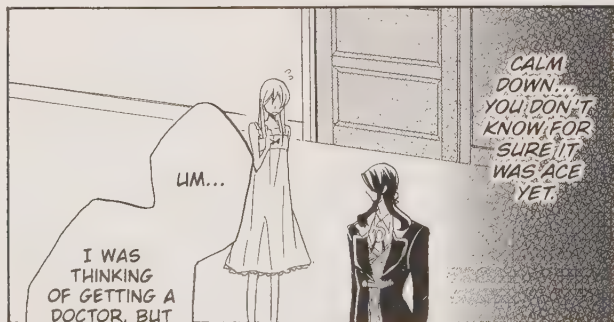


HE MUST
BE BADLY
INJURED.



DOES
IT HAVE TO
DO WITH
THE CAT IN
YOUR
BED?

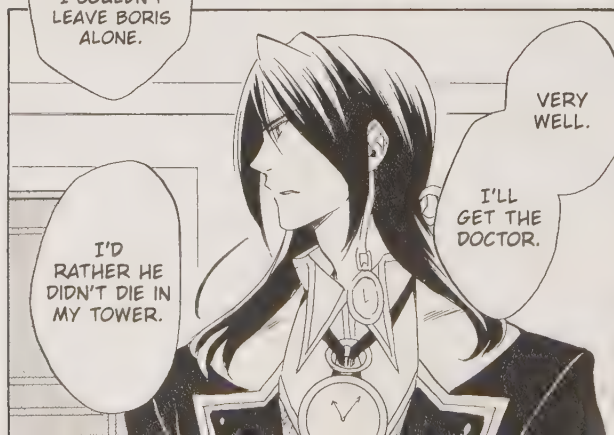
Y...
YEAH.



UM...

I WAS
THINKING
OF GETTING A
DOCTOR, BUT
I COULDN'T
LEAVE BORIS
ALONE.

CALM
DOWN...
YOU DON'T
KNOW FOR
SURE IT
WAS ACE
YET.



I'D
RATHER HE
DIDN'T DIE IN
MY TOWER.

VERY
WELL.

I'LL
GET THE
DOCTOR.

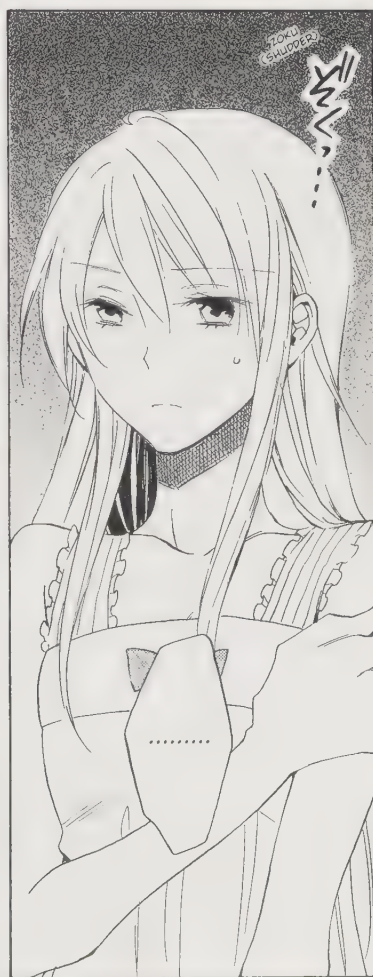
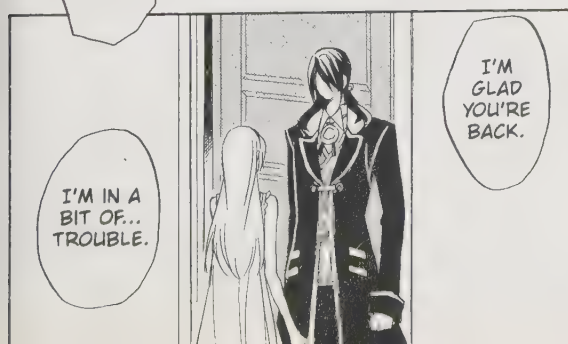
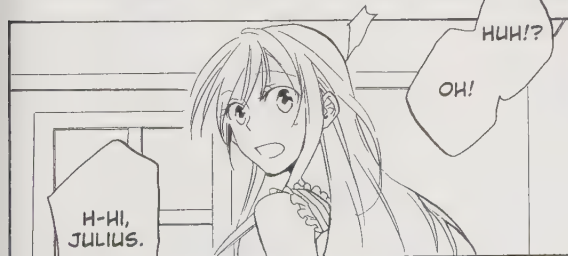
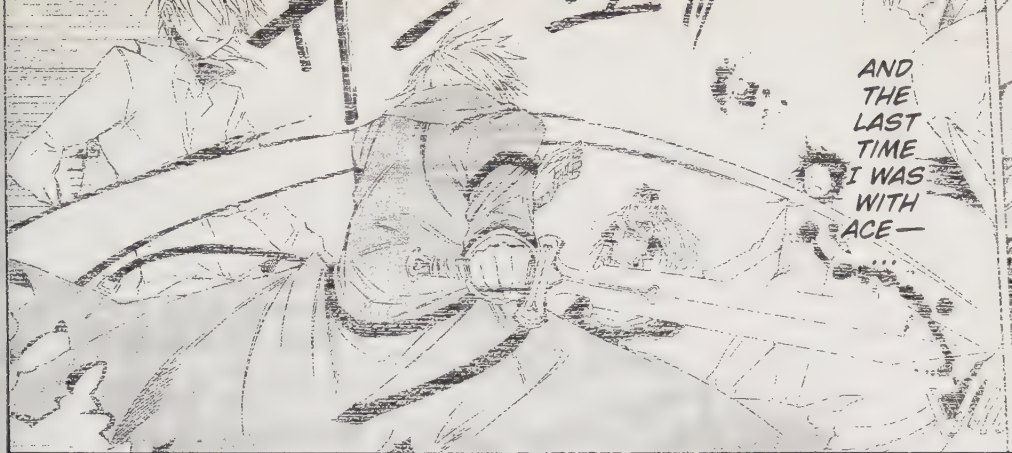


AND
HE'S NOT
EXACTLY A
HELPLESS
YOUNG
MAN.
HE
MUST
HAVE BEEN
GOING
AGAINST
SOMEONE
VERY
SKILLED.

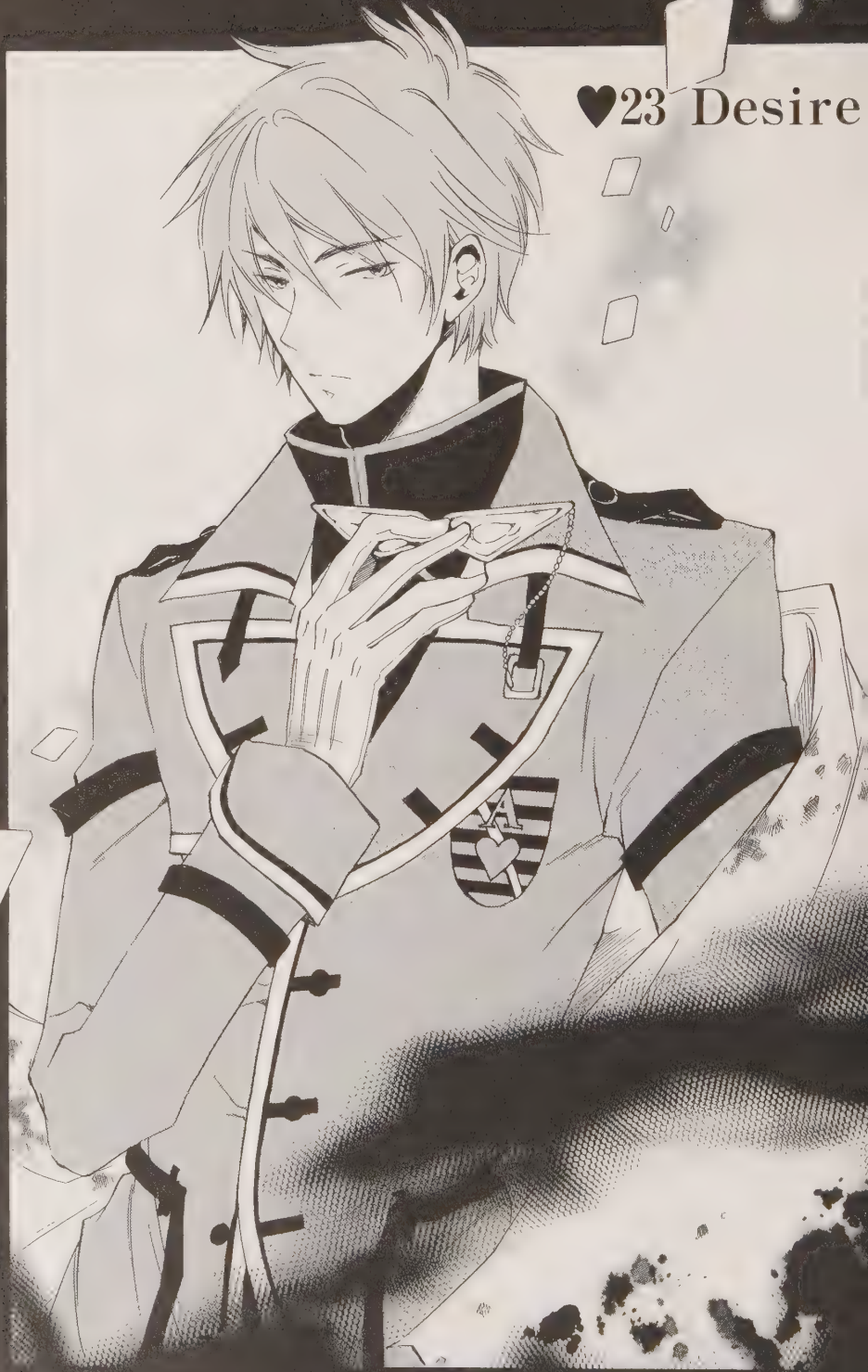
DOKI
(GADGUND)

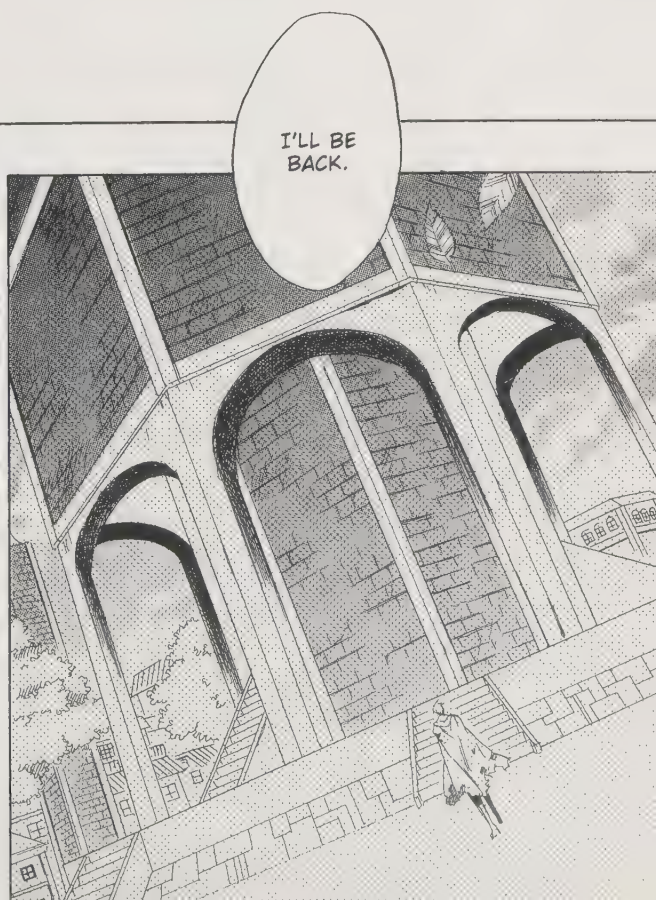
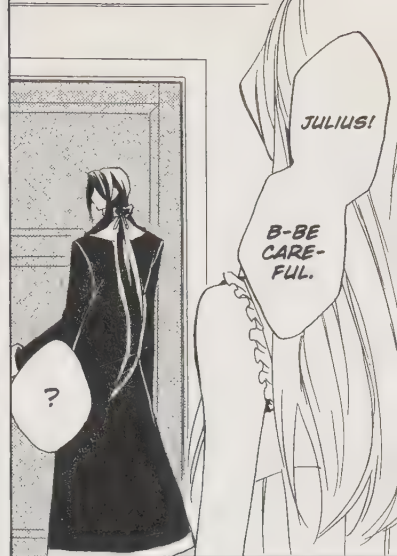
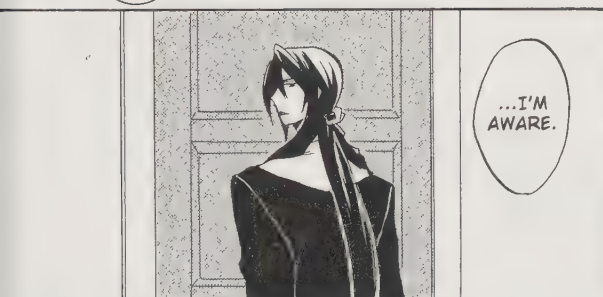
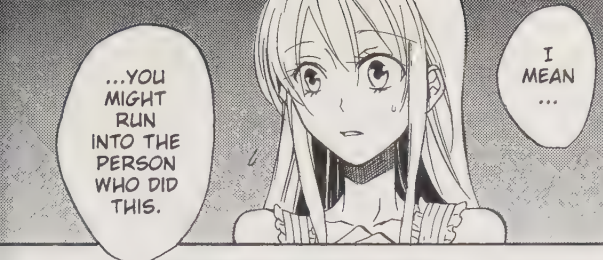
ドキ
#

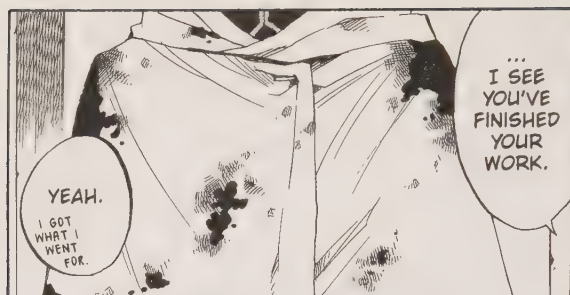
AND
THE
LAST
TIME
I WAS
WITH
ACE—



♥23 Desire



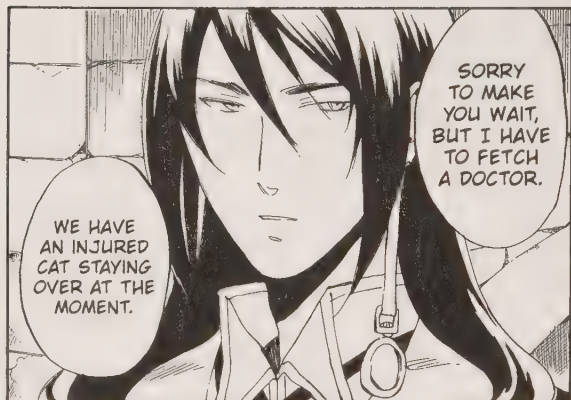




YEAH.

I GOT
WHAT I
WENT
FOR.

...
I SEE
YOU'VE
FINISHED
YOUR
WORK.



WE HAVE
AN INJURED
CAT STAYING
OVER AT THE
MOMENT.

SORRY
TO MAKE
YOU WAIT,
BUT I HAVE
TO FETCH
A DOCTOR.



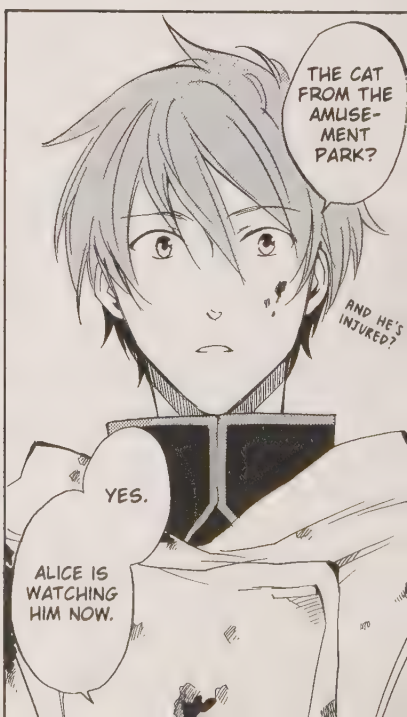
YES.

YOU
GOING
OUT?



I'LL
BE BACK
SOON
...

...
SO LET
YOUR-
SELF
IN.

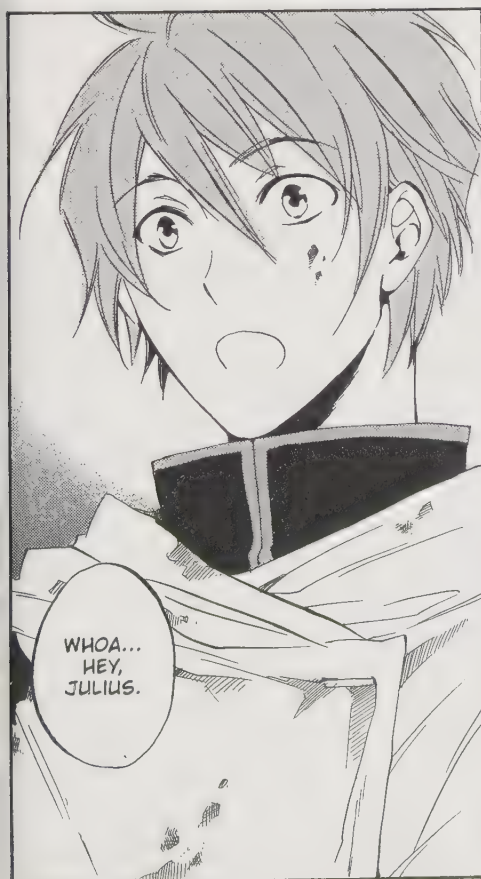
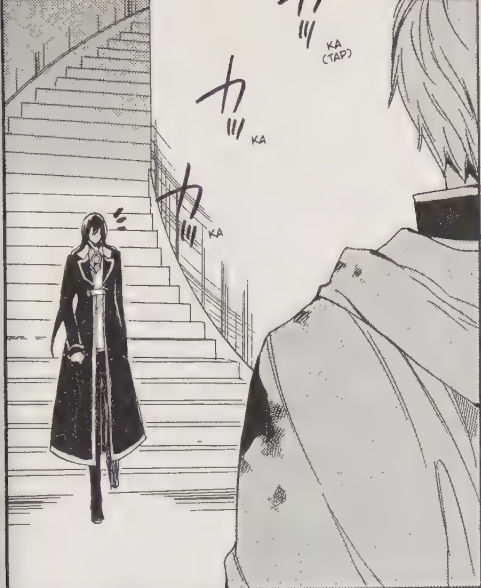


THE CAT
FROM THE
AMUSE-
MENT
PARK?

AND HE'S
INJURED?

YES.

ALICE IS
WATCHING
HIM NOW.



ガ
チ
ガ
チ
KACHA
GURU



ACE...

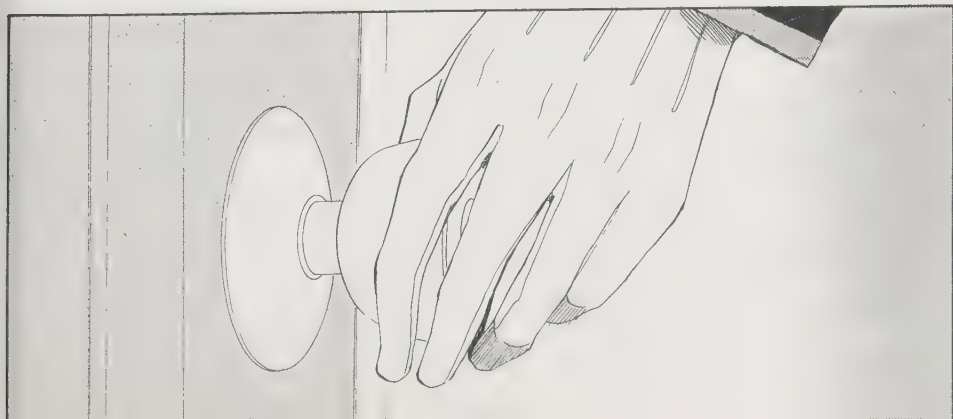
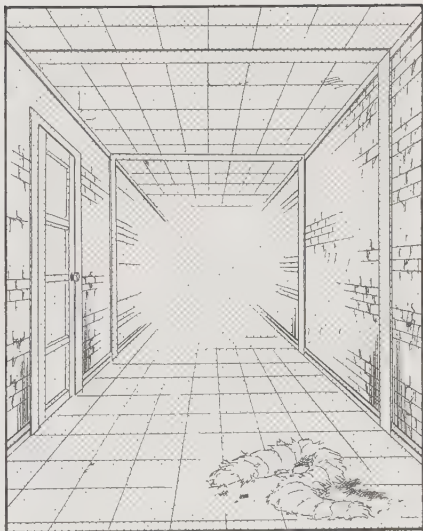
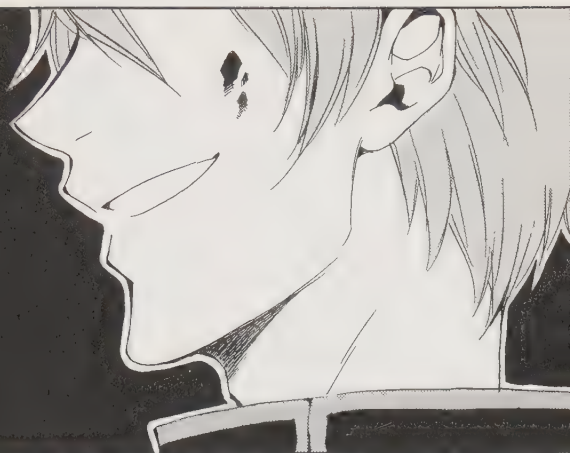


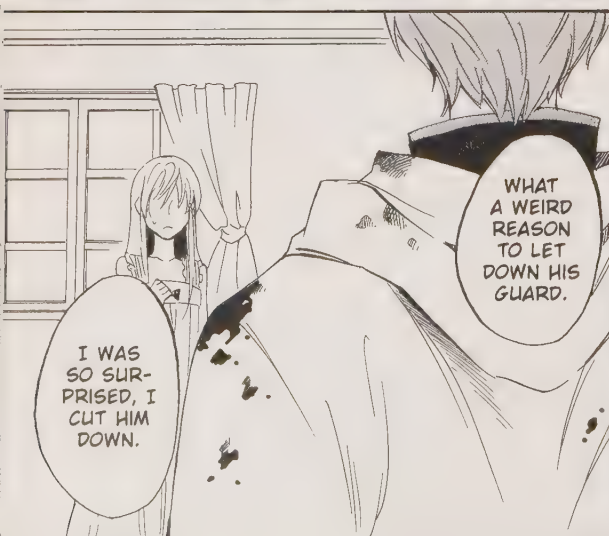
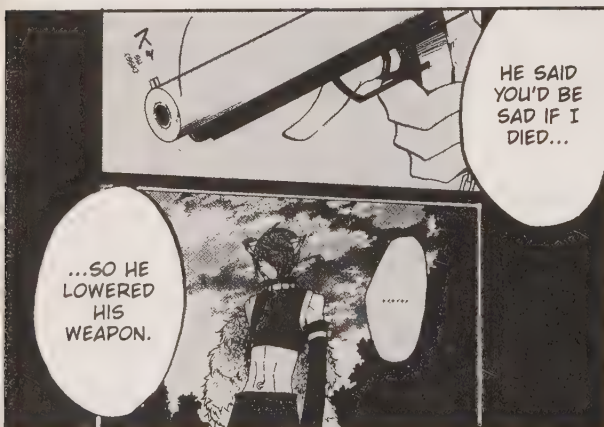
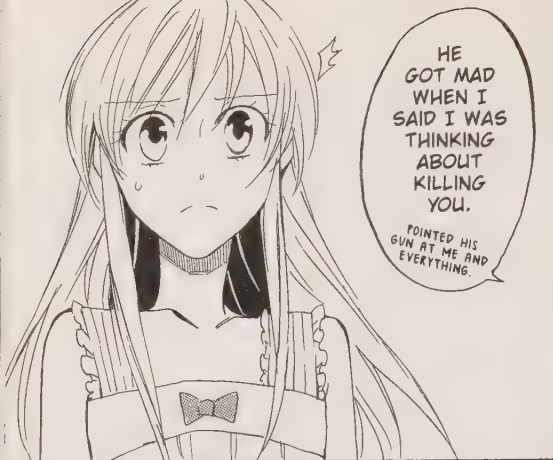
BIKU
GURU

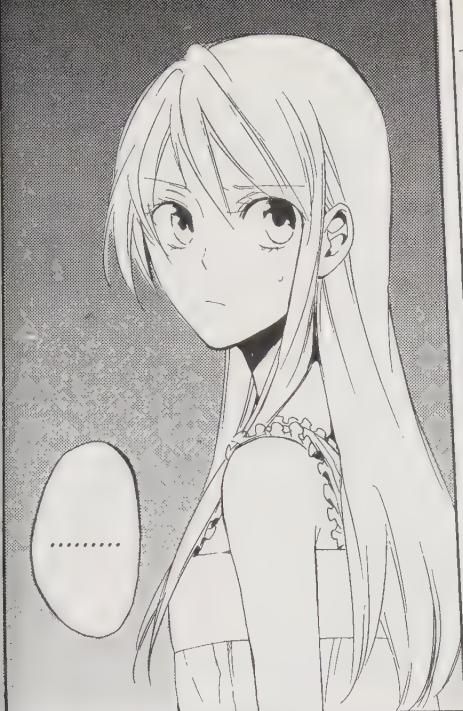
てん

!

DON'T
MIND IF
I DO.





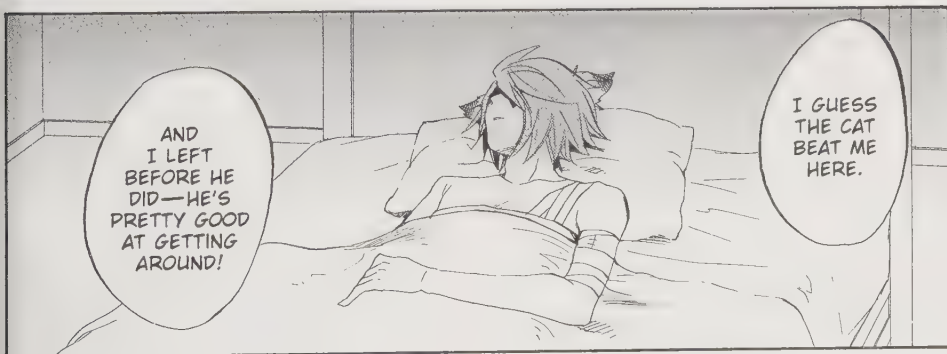


.....



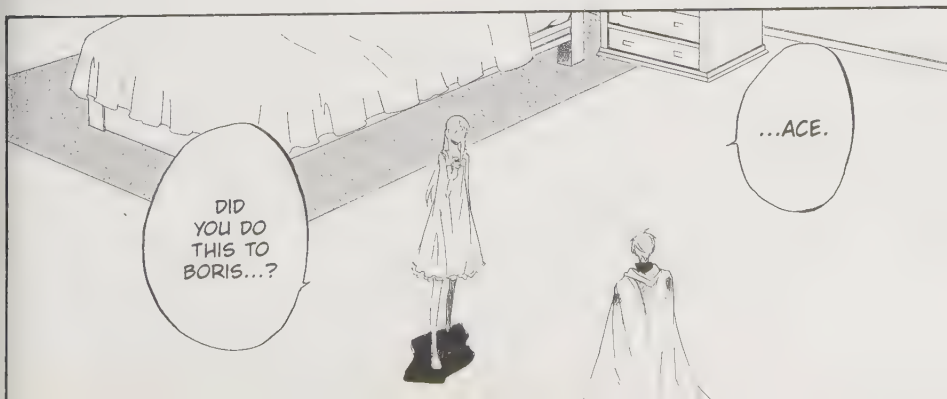
HEY,
ALICE.

WHAT'S
WRONG?
YOU LOOK...
FREAKED
OUT.



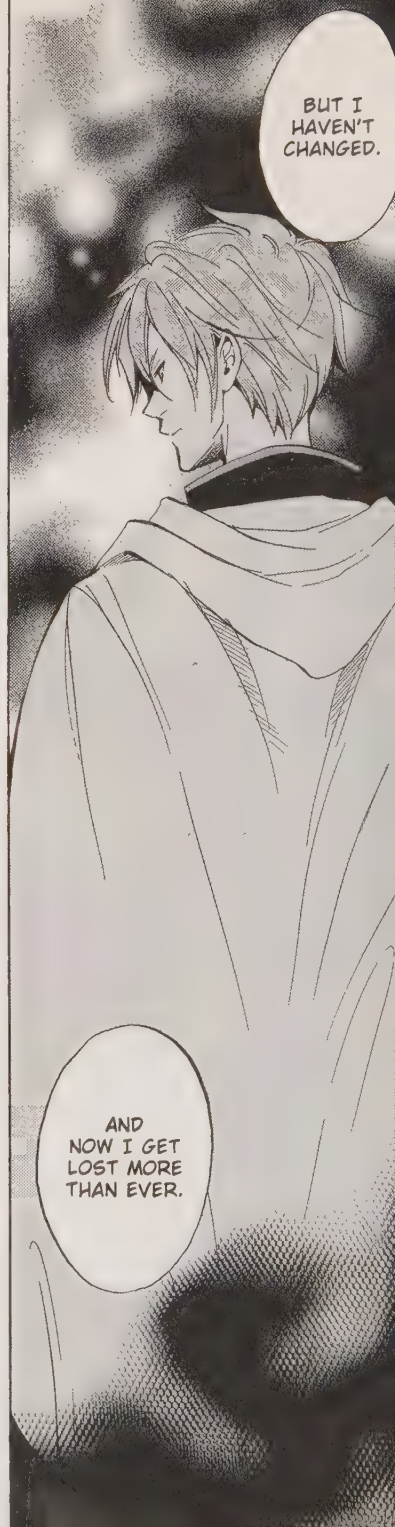
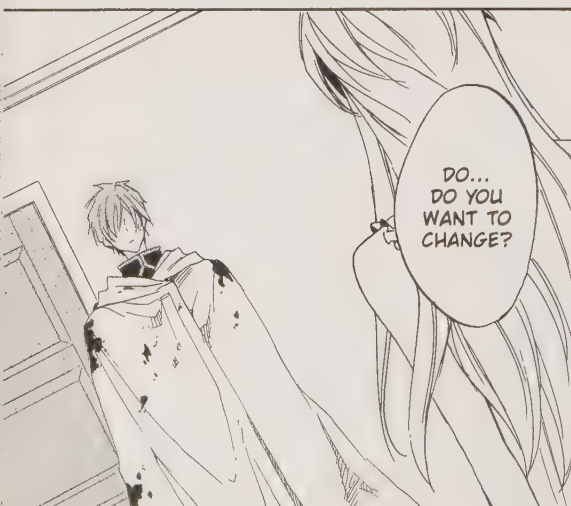
AND
I LEFT
BEFORE HE
DID—HE'S
PRETTY GOOD
AT GETTING
AROUND!

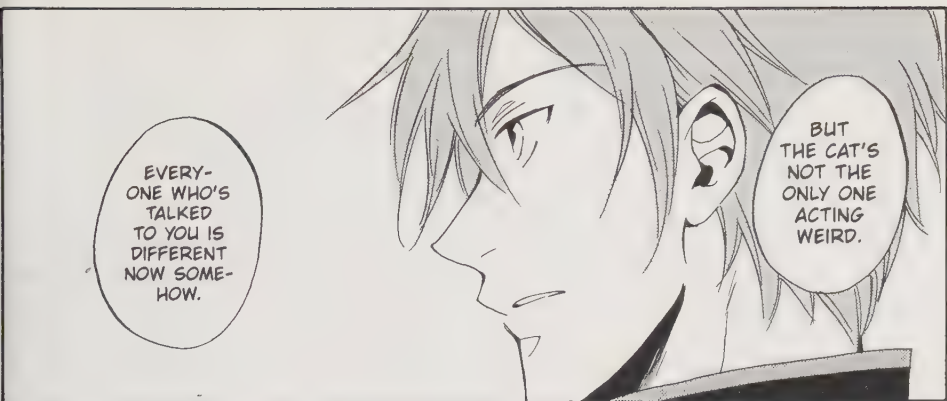
I GUESS
THE CAT
BEAT ME
HERE.



DID
YOU DO
THIS TO
BORIS...?

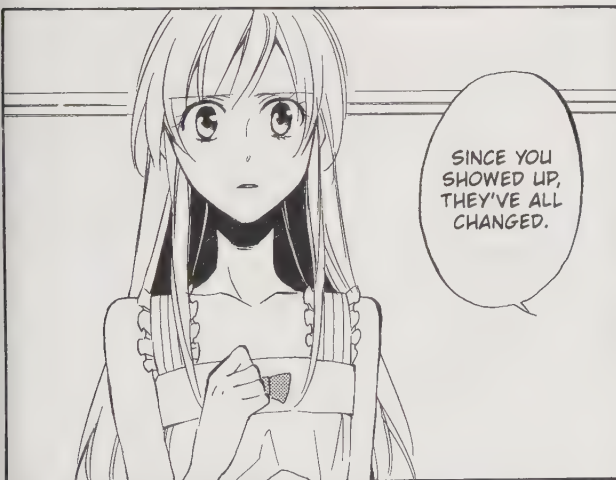
...ACE.



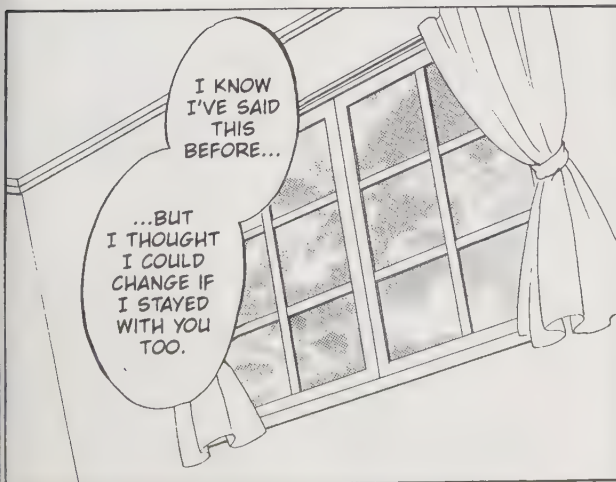


EVERY-
ONE WHO'S
TALKED
TO YOU IS
DIFFERENT
NOW SOME-
HOW.

BUT
THE CAT'S
NOT THE
ONLY ONE
ACTING
WEIRD.

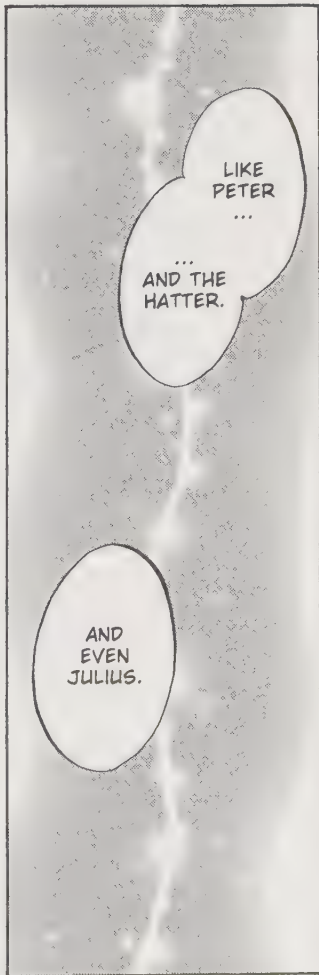


SINCE YOU
SHOWED UP,
THEY'VE ALL
CHANGED.



I KNOW
I'VE SAID
THIS
BEFORE...

...BUT
I THOUGHT
I COULD
CHANGE IF
I STAYED
WITH YOU
TOO.



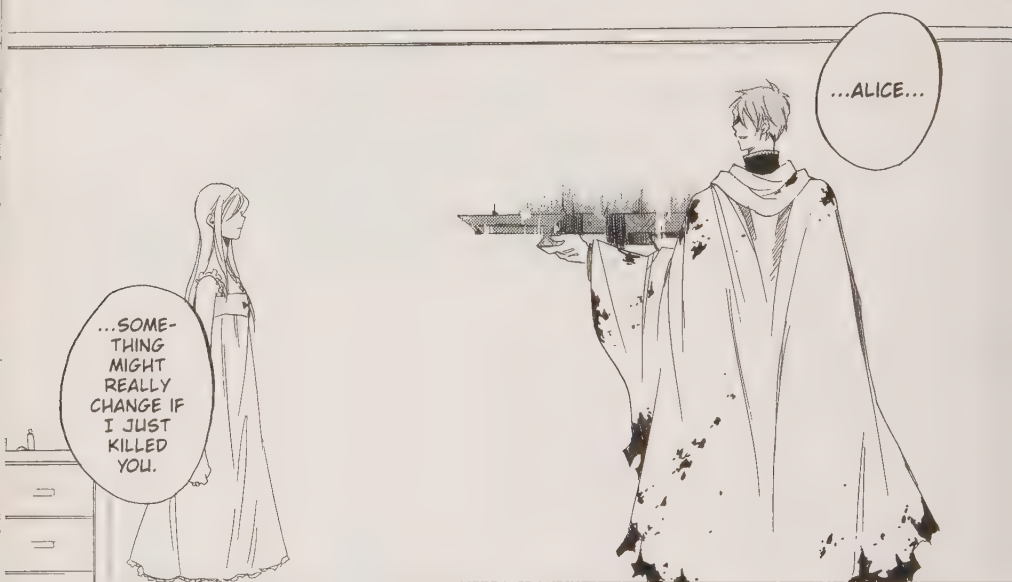
LIKE
PETER
...

...
AND THE
HATTER.

AND
EVEN
JULIUS.

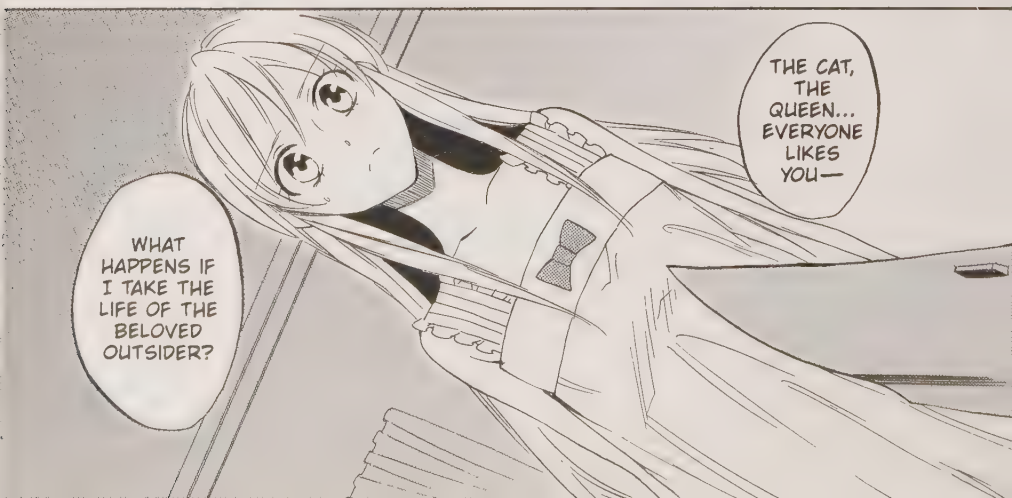


BUT...



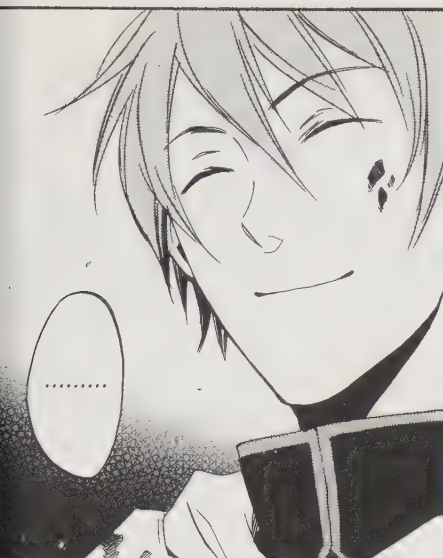
...ALICE...

...SOME-
THING
MIGHT
REALLY
CHANGE IF
I JUST
KILLED
YOU.



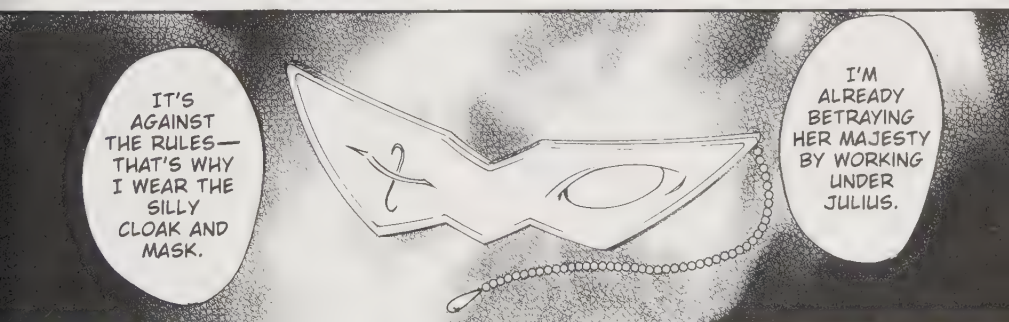
WHAT
HAPPENS IF
I TAKE THE
LIFE OF THE
BELOVED
OUTSIDER?

THE CAT,
THE
QUEEN...
EVERYONE
LIKES
YOU—



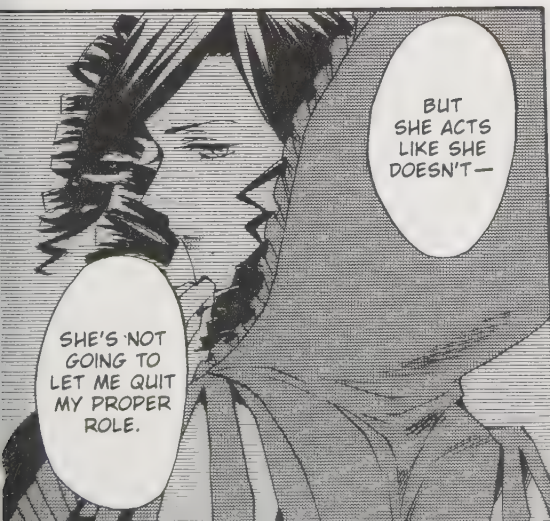
VIVALDI
TOLD ME
SOME-
THING.

YOU
REALLY
WANT
TO QUIT
WHATEVER
YOUR ROLE
IS, DON'T
YOU?



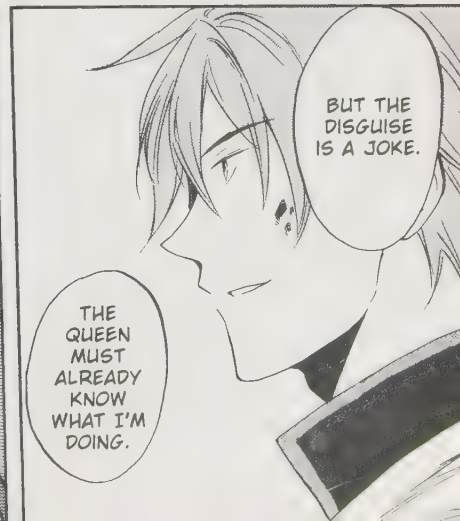
IT'S
AGAINST
THE RULES—
THAT'S WHY
I WEAR THE
SILLY
CLOAK AND
MASK.

I'M
ALREADY
BETRAYING
HER MAJESTY
BY WORKING
UNDER
JULIUS.



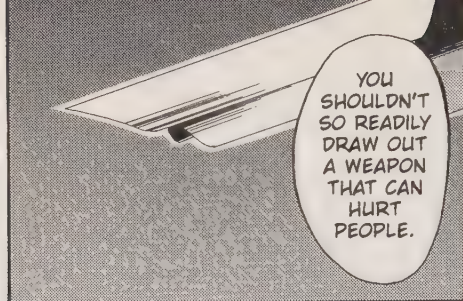
BUT
SHE ACTS
LIKE SHE
DOESN'T—

SHE'S NOT
GOING TO
LET ME QUIT
MY PROPER
ROLE.



BUT THE
DISGUISE
IS A JOKE.

THE
QUEEN
MUST
ALREADY
KNOW
WHAT I'M
DOING.



YOU
SHOULDN'T
SO READILY
DRAW OUT
A WEAPON
THAT CAN
HURT
PEOPLE.



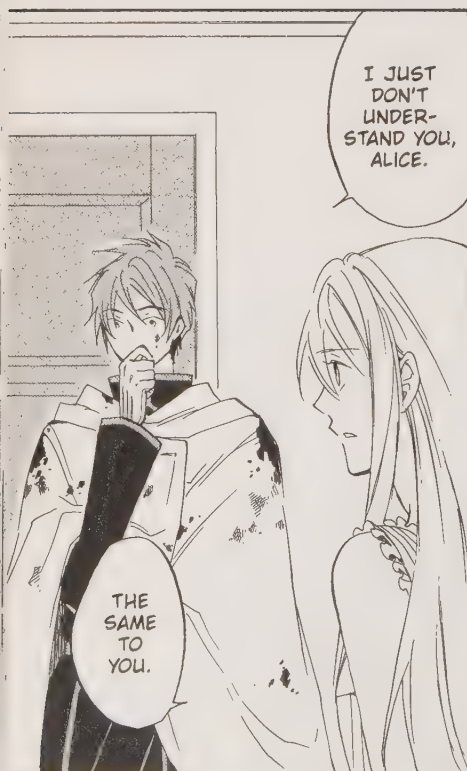
I DON'T
WANT
TO DIE
EITHER

HMMM.



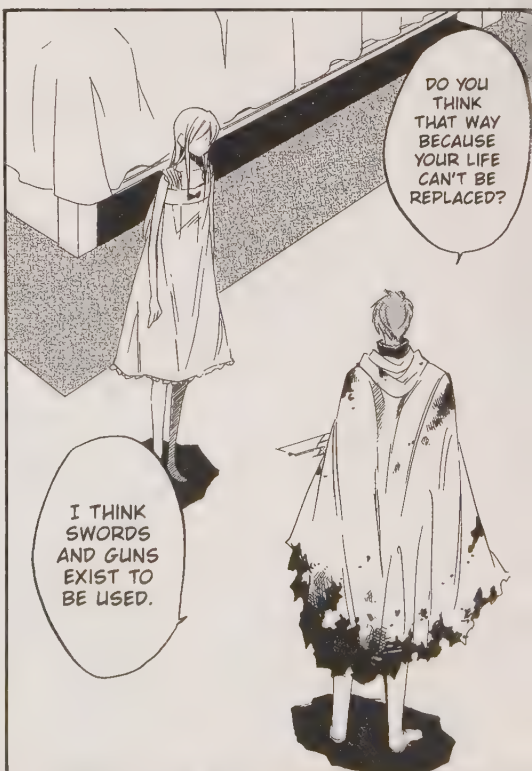
.....

PUT
AWAY THE
GUN.



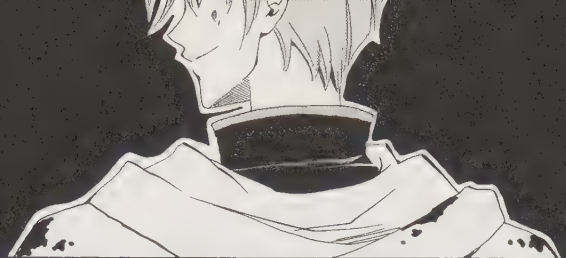
I JUST
DON'T
UNDER-
STAND YOU,
ALICE.

THE
SAME
TO
YOU.

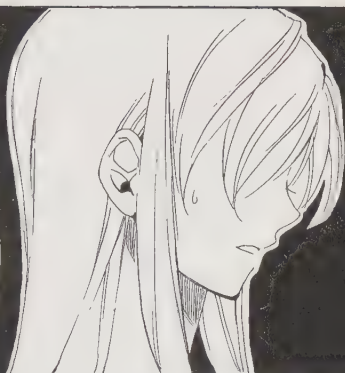


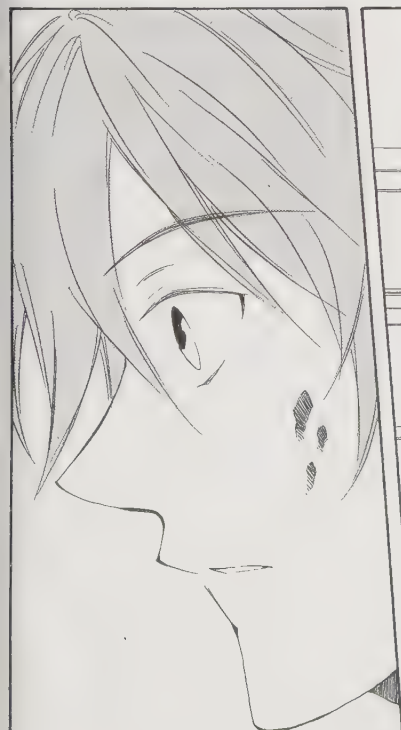
DO YOU
THINK
THAT WAY
BECAUSE
YOUR LIFE
CAN'T BE
REPLACED?

I THINK
SWORDS
AND GUNS
EXIST TO
BE USED.



YOU'RE
NOT
SERIOUS.

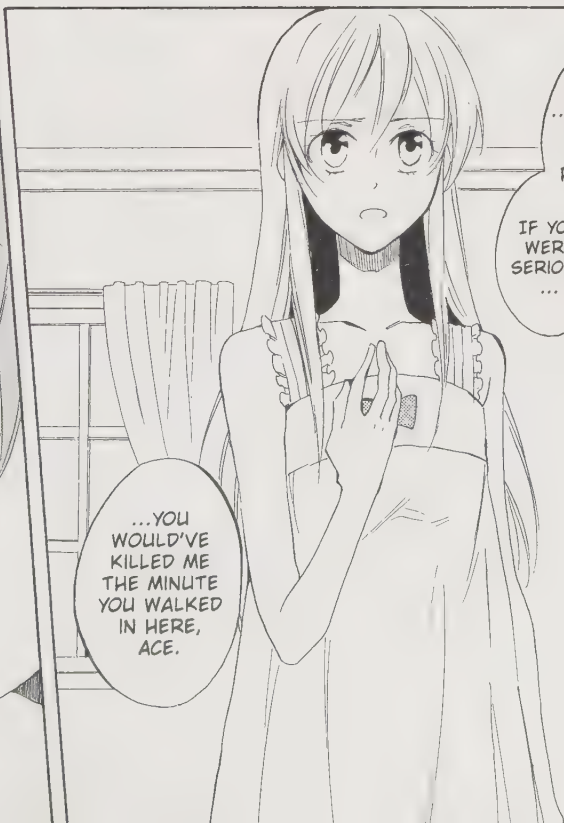




...YOU
WOULD'VE
KILLED ME
THE MINUTE
YOU WALKED
IN HERE,
ACE.

IF YOU
WERE
SERIOUS
...

...YOU'RE
JUST
LOST,
RIGHT?





TO
ME...

...YOU'RE
THE ONE
WHO TURNS
GETTING
LOST INTO A
TRIP.



CAN'T
WE JUST
LEAVE
THINGS
THE WAY
THEY
ARE?

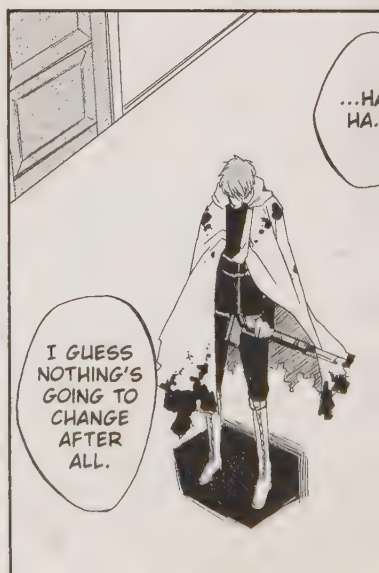


IS IT
BAD...
TO JUST
KEEP
IT LIKE
THAT?

THE ONE
WHO LOOKS
HAPPY, NO
MATTER
WHERE HE
ENDS UP.



BUT —
MAYBE
THAT'S
OKAY.



...HA.
HA.

I GUESS
NOTHING'S
GOING TO
CHANGE
AFTER
ALL.

I CAN'T
UNDERSTAND
THE WAY YOU
THINK, ACE.

I DON'T
GET THE
RULES OF
THIS WORLD
AND THE
DISREGARD
FOR LIFE
HERE...

...I
GUESS
SO.

WE'LL
HAVE TO
AGREE TO
DIS-
AGREE.

...HEY,
ACE?



SO...

...LET'S GO
CAMPING
AGAIN.



IF I
CAN
HEAR IT
AGAIN...

...I'D
RATHER
YOU
LIVED.



WH-
WHY
DOES IT
HAVE TO
BE INSIDE
THE
TENT!?

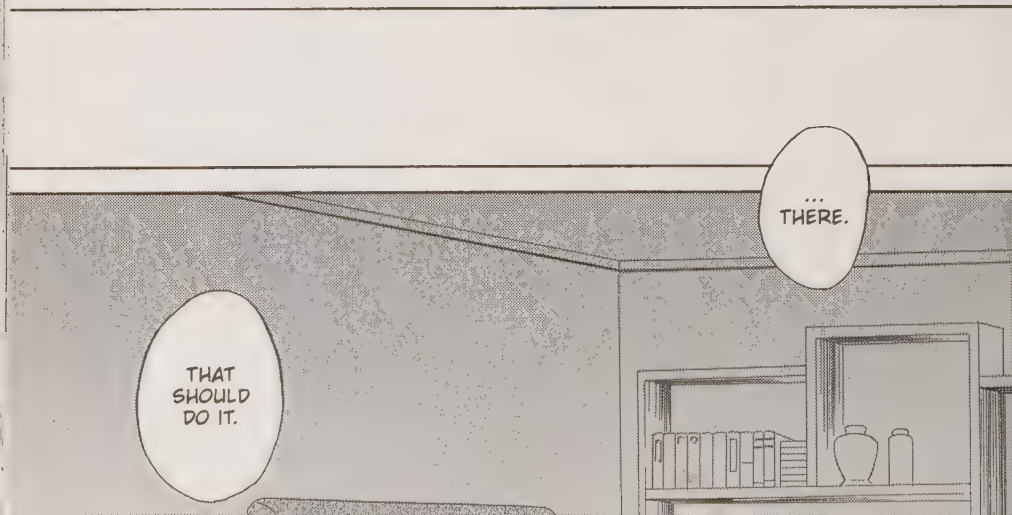
KAAA
(BLUSH)

はあ、

INSIDE
THE
TENT.

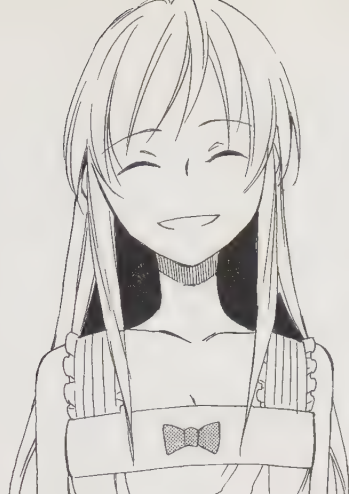
AND...

...LET ME
LISTEN
TO YOUR
CHEST
AGAIN!
♡



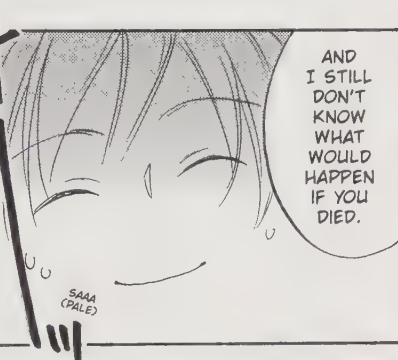
THAT
SHOULD
DO IT.

...
THERE.



I GUESS
I DON'T
HAVE TO
KILL YOU,
ALICE.

IT
COULDN'T
BEEN
REALLY
INTEREST-
ING TO
FIND OUT,
Y'KNOW.



AND
I STILL
DON'T
KNOW
WHAT
WOULD
HAPPEN
IF YOU
DIED.

SAAA
(PALE)

...I
COULDN'T
LISTEN TO
THE SOUND
OF YOUR
HEART
ANYMORE.

YOU
(SQUEEZED)

BUT
IF I
KILLED
YOU...

BY
THE WAY—
I WAS
SERIOUS.

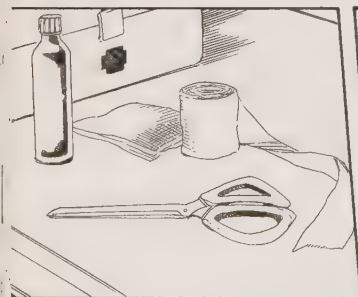
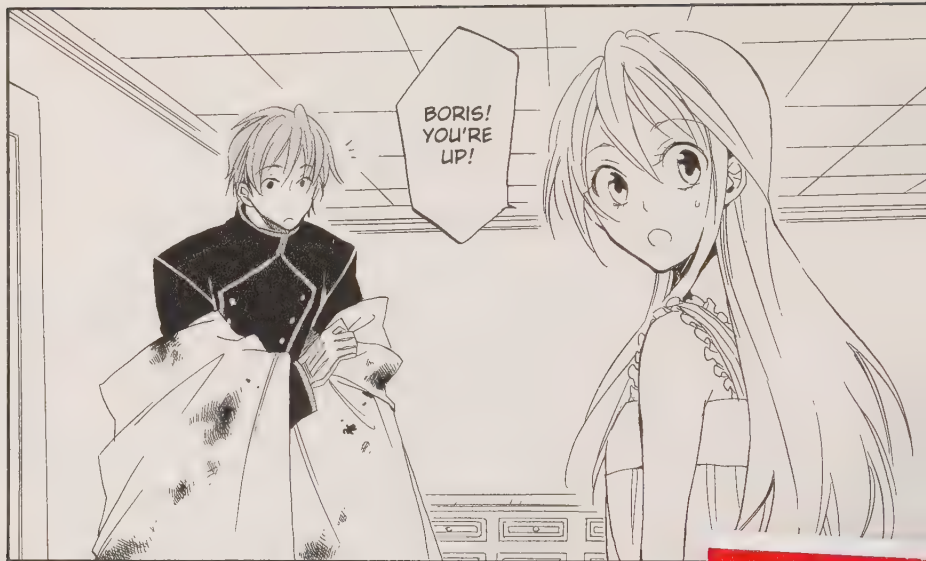
I WASN'T LOST
AT ALL.



♥24 Letter of Invitation







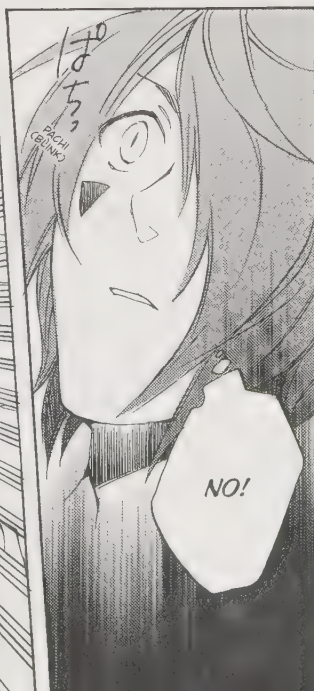
...JULIUS
SAID HE'D
BE BACK
SOON.

BUT THE
CASTLE'S BEEN
PRETTY BUSY
LATELY— I
SHOULD
PROBABLY
GO.

GIVE JULIUS
THE CLOCKS
I BROUGHT,
WILL YOU?

...SURE,
ACE.

...ACE?





RIGHT?

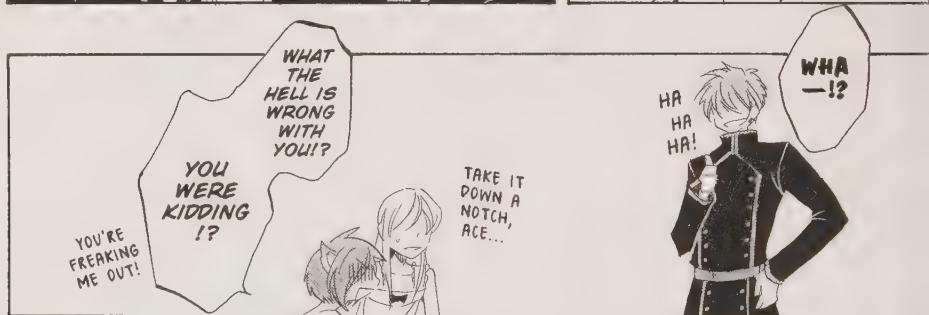
YEAH.

TAKE
IT EASY,
PUSSY-
CAT!



...IT'S
OKAY
BORIS

ACE
SAID HE
WOULDN'T
HURT ME.



YOU'RE
FREAKING
ME OUT!

YOU
WERE
KIDDING
!?

WHAT
THE
HELL IS
WRONG
WITH
YOU!?

TAKE IT
DOWN A
NOTCH,
ACE...

HA
HA
HA!

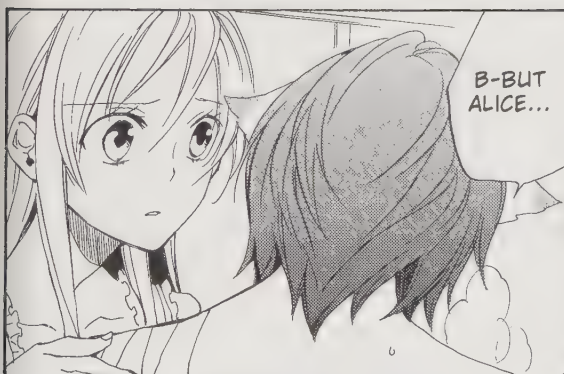
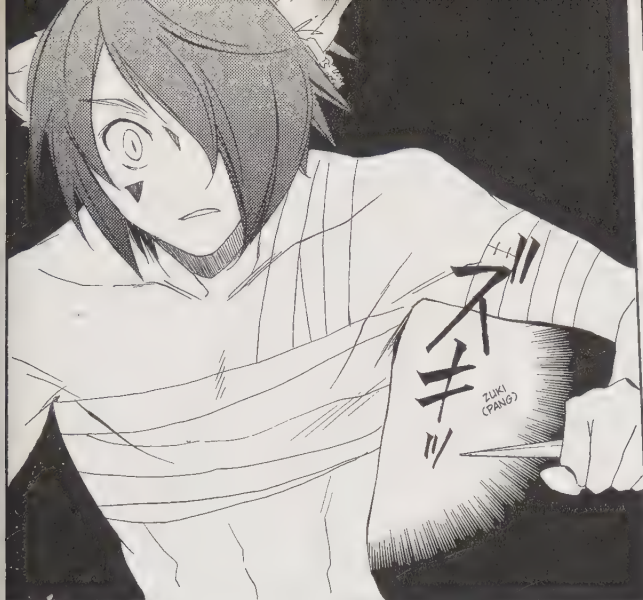
WHA
—!?

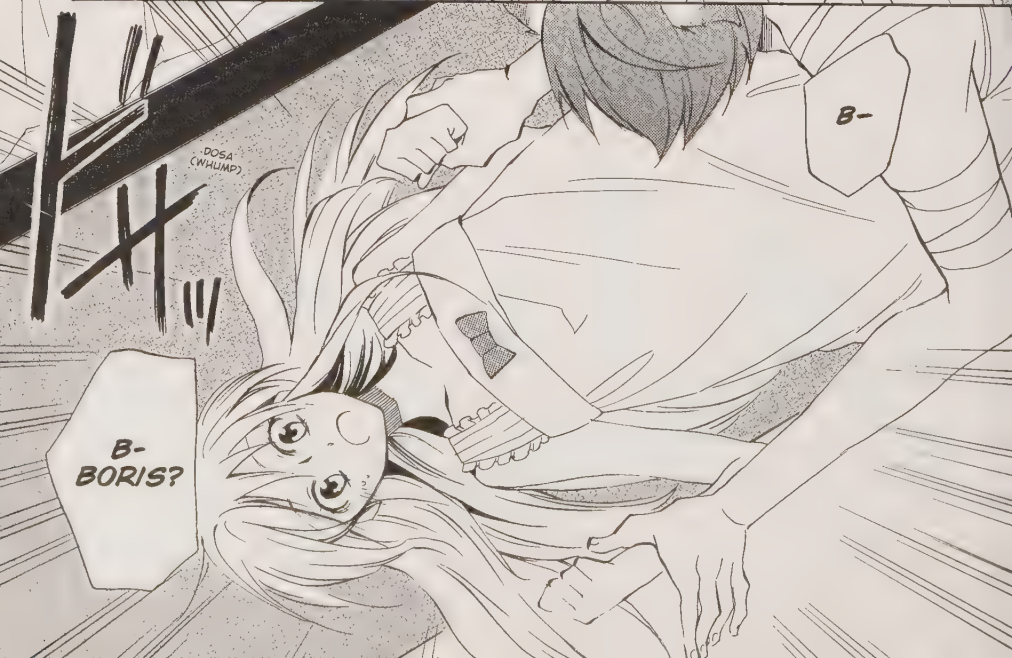
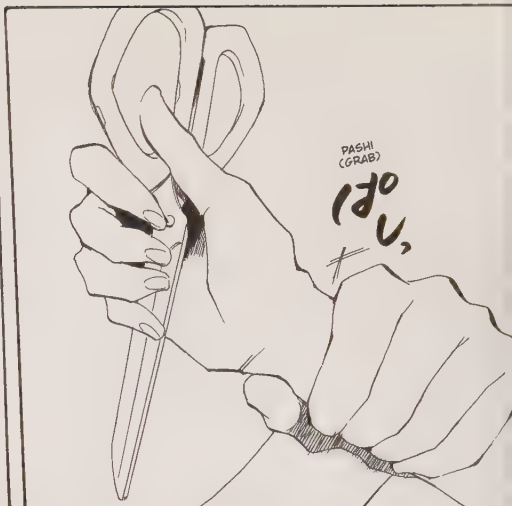
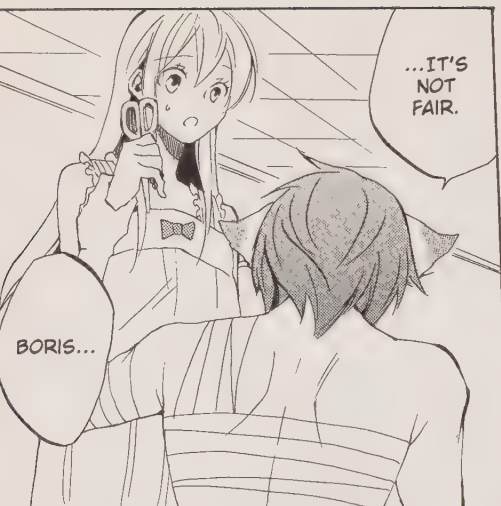


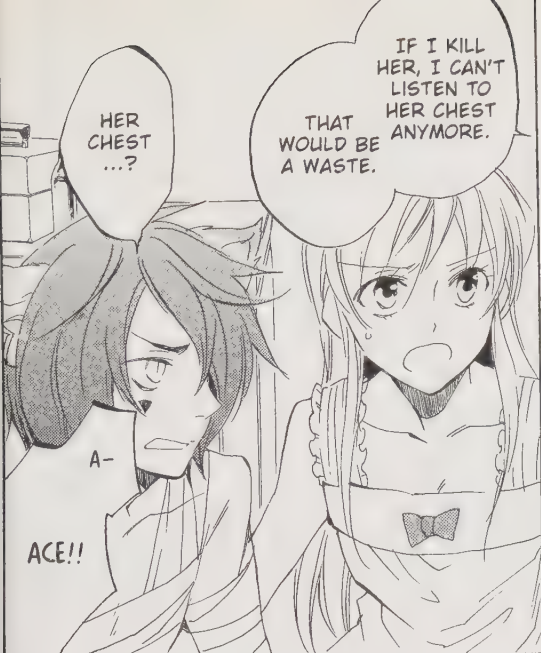
BUT I
CHANGED
MY MIND
A MINUTE
AGO.

I WAS
TOTALLY
SERIOUS.

AH
HA
HA.
I
WASN'T
KIDDING.
NOT
AT THE
TIME.





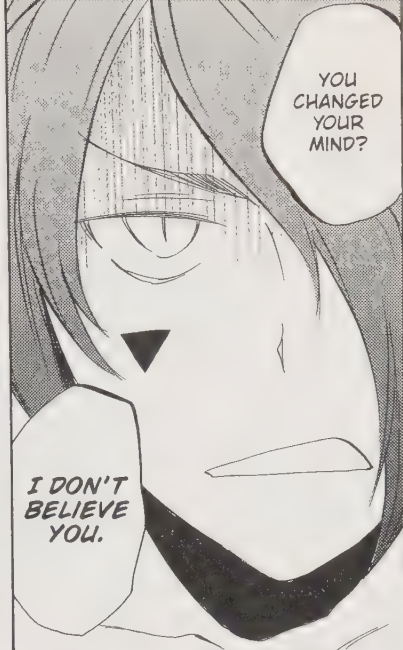


HER
CHEST
...?

IF I KILL
HER, I CAN'T
LISTEN TO
HER CHEST
ANYMORE.
THAT
WOULD BE
A WASTE.

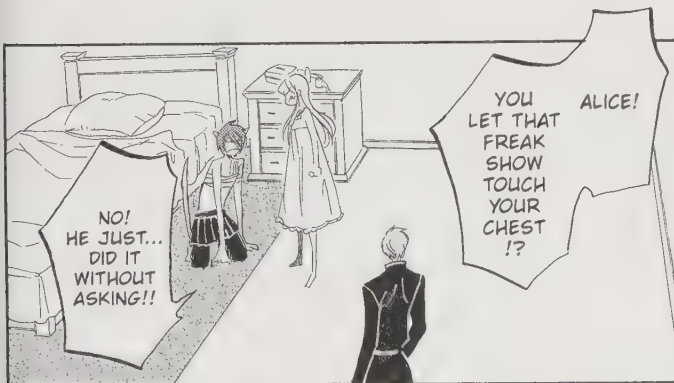
A-

ACE!!



YOU
CHANGED
YOUR
MIND?

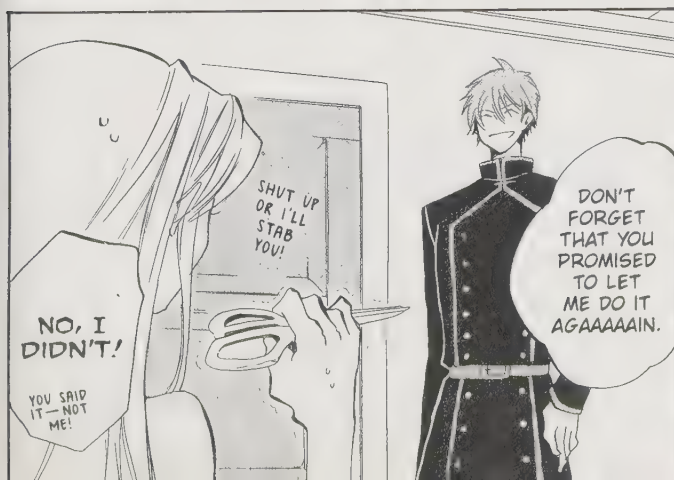
I DON'T
BELIEVE
YOU.



NO!
HE JUST...
DID IT
WITHOUT
ASKING!!

YOU
LET THAT
FREAK
SHOW
TOUCH
YOUR
CHEST
!?

ALICE!

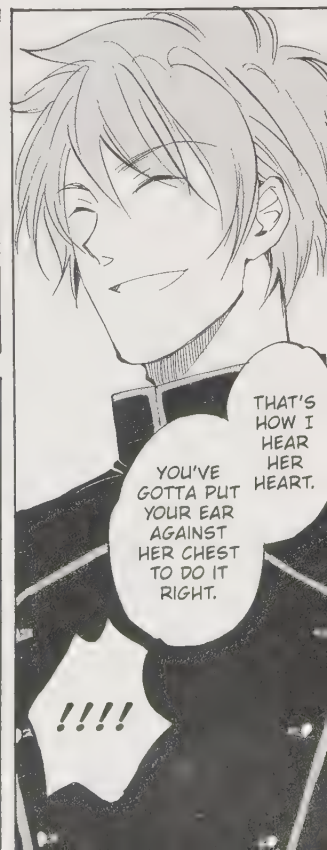


NO, I
DIDN'T!

YOU SAID
IT—NOT
ME!

SHUT UP
OR I'LL
STAB
YOU!

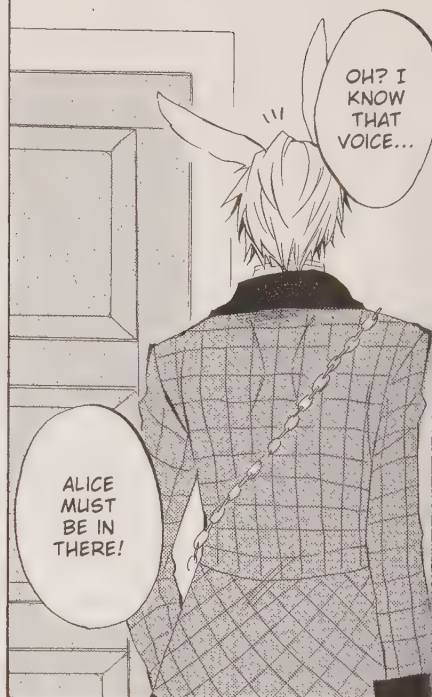
DON'T
FORGET
THAT YOU
PROMISED
TO LET
ME DO IT
AGAAAAAIN.



THAT'S
HOW I
HEAR
HER
HEART.

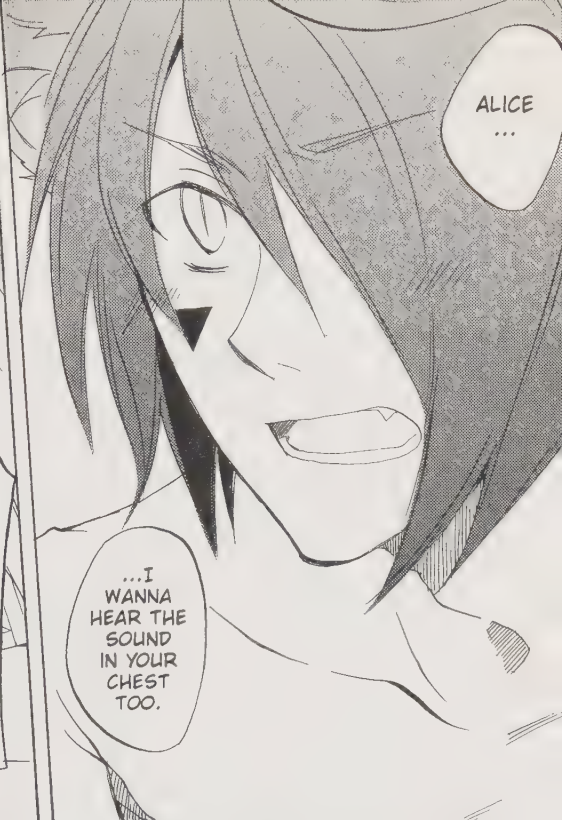
YOU'VE
GOTTA PUT
YOUR EAR
AGAINST
HER CHEST
TO DO IT
RIGHT.

!!!!





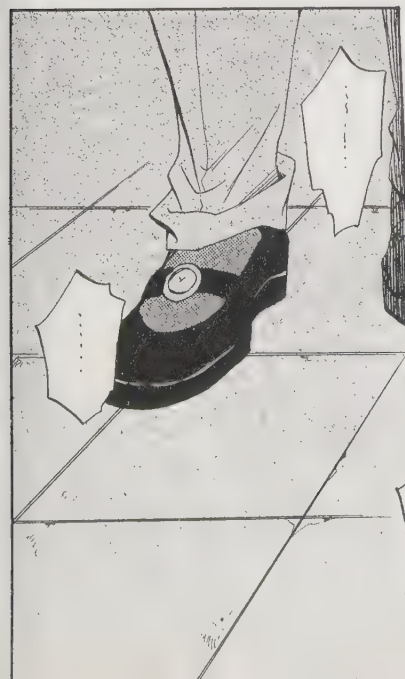
~~~~~!!!



ALICE

...

...I  
WANNA  
HEAR THE  
SOUND  
IN YOUR  
CHEST  
TOO.



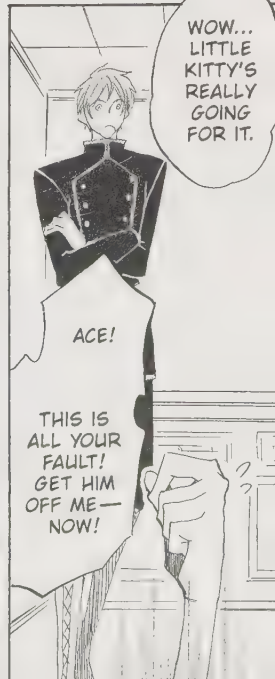
HEY!

YOU  
HAD  
YOUR  
TURN!

COME ON,  
LET ME JOIN.  
IT'S OKAY  
WITH YOU,  
RIGHT,  
ALICE?

THIS  
ISN'T  
FUNNY,  
YOU  
TWO!

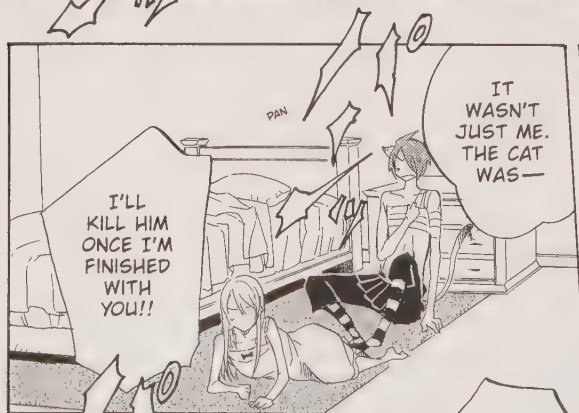
I'D  
RATHER  
JOIN IN.  
IT LOOKS  
LIKE  
FUN.

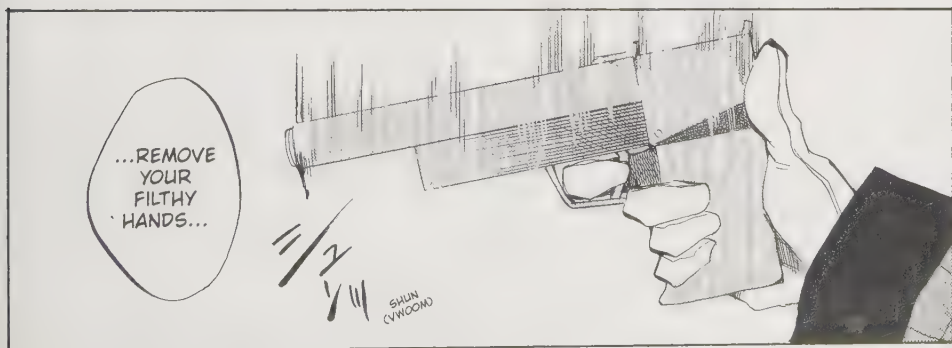
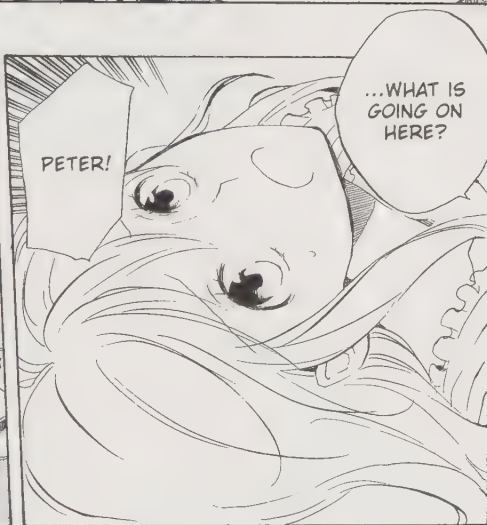
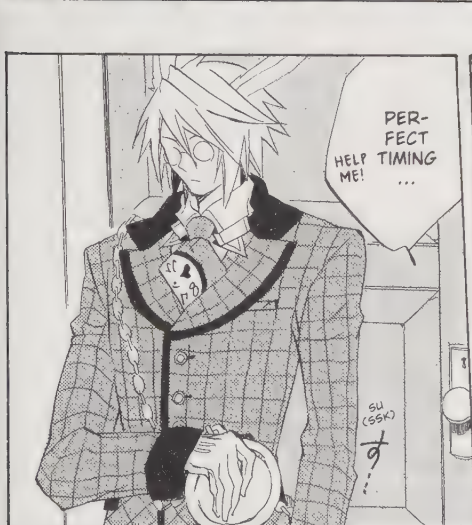


WOW...  
LITTLE  
KITTY'S  
REALLY  
GOING  
FOR IT.

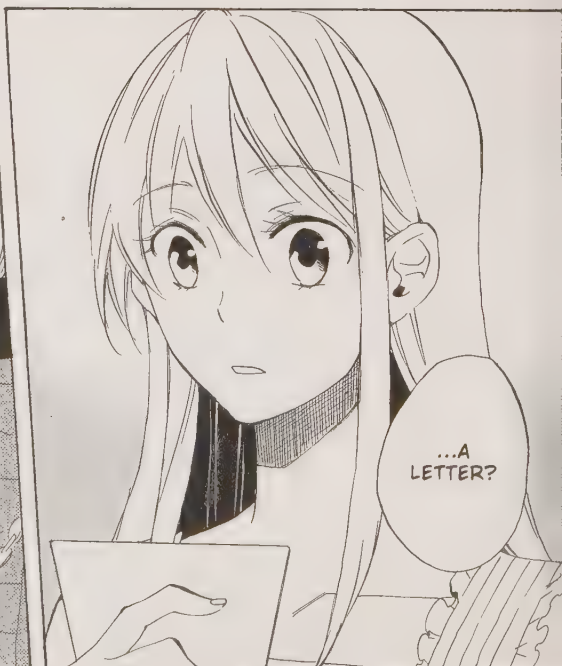
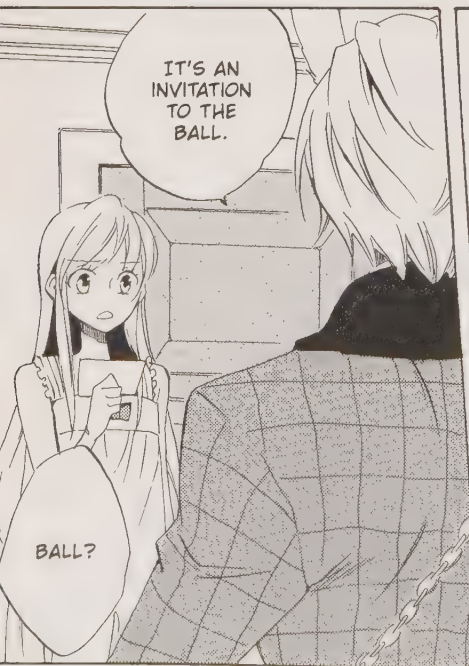
ACE!

THIS IS  
ALL YOUR  
FAULT!  
GET HIM  
OFF ME—  
NOW!

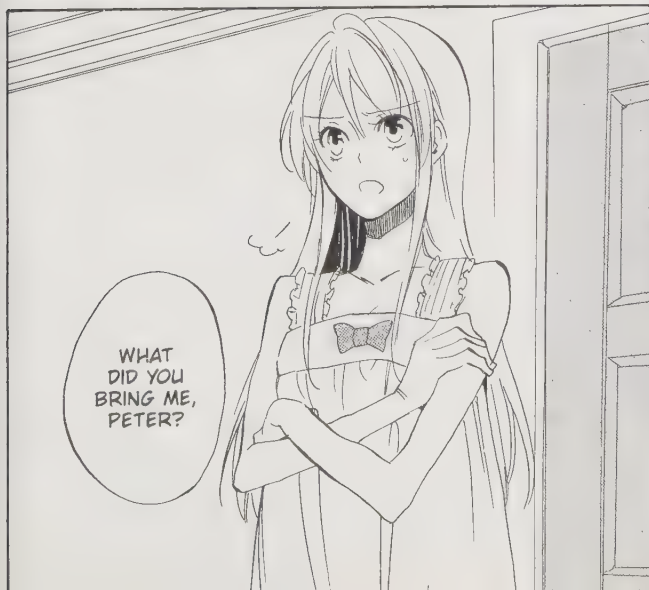
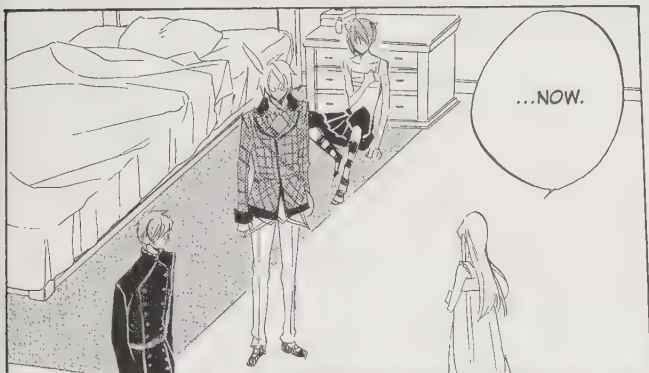








**STOP  
ALL THIS  
NON-  
SENSE AT  
ONCE!!!**



...BUT  
I DON'T  
WANNA!

KA  
(FLASH)

YOU  
HAVE  
A POINT,  
I SEE...

GUH!

BE  
REASON-  
ABLE.  
IF WE  
SKIP IT, HER  
MAJESTY IS  
GOING TO FLIP  
HER LID, AND  
THAT'LL BE  
TOO MUCH  
TROUBLE.

YOU KNOW HOW  
SHE HATES IT  
WHEN WE'RE  
LATE.



I'M  
NOT  
GOING  
BACK!

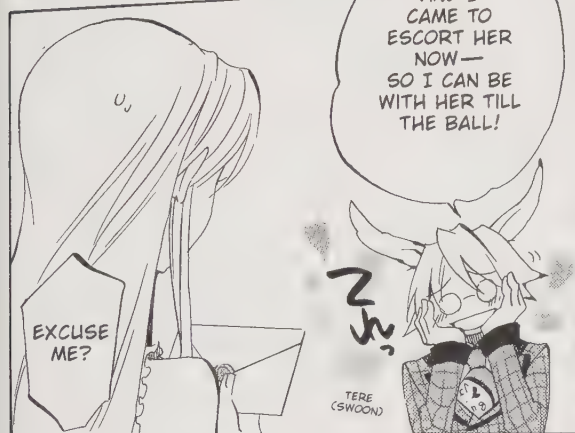


POFU  
(POMF)





IT IS!



AND I  
CAME TO  
ESCORT HER  
NOW—  
SO I CAN BE  
WITH HER TILL  
THE BALL!

U,  
EXCUSE  
ME?

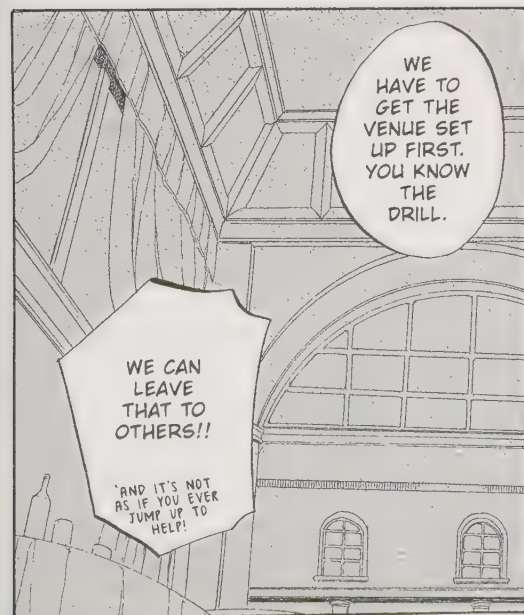
2  
h,

TERE  
(SWOON)



OH  
MAN.

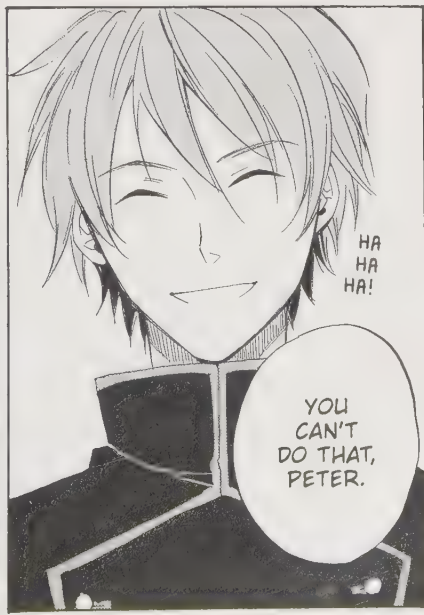
I GUESS  
IT'S THAT  
TIME OF  
THE YEAR  
ALREADY.



WE  
HAVE TO  
GET THE  
VENUE SET  
UP FIRST.  
YOU KNOW  
THE DRILL.

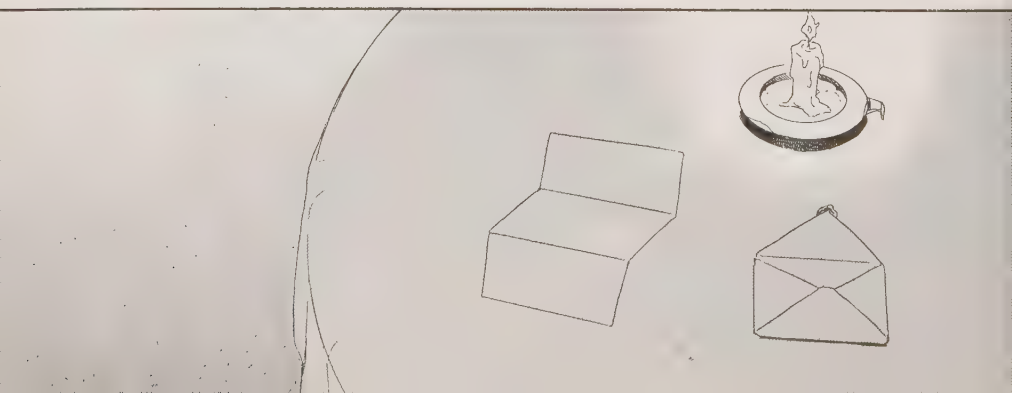
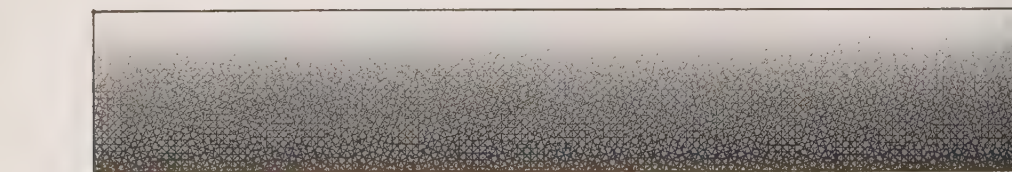
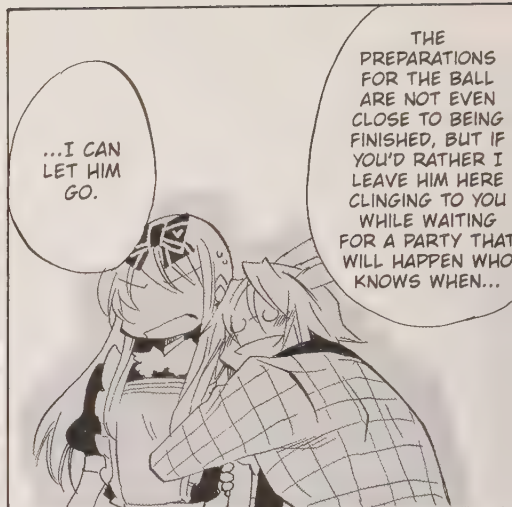
WE CAN  
LEAVE  
THAT TO  
OTHERS!!

'AND IT'S NOT  
AS IF YOU EVER  
JUMP UP TO  
HELP!



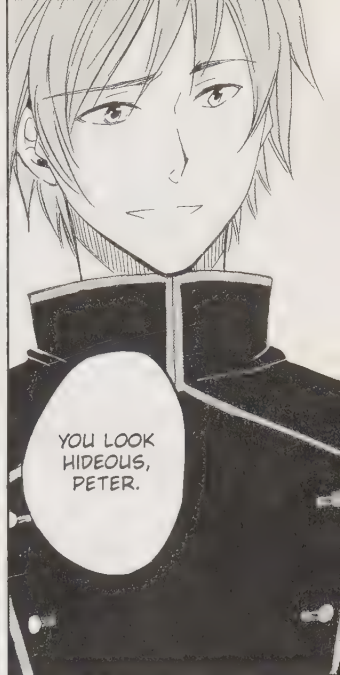
HA  
HA  
HA!

YOU  
CAN'T  
DO THAT,  
PETER.

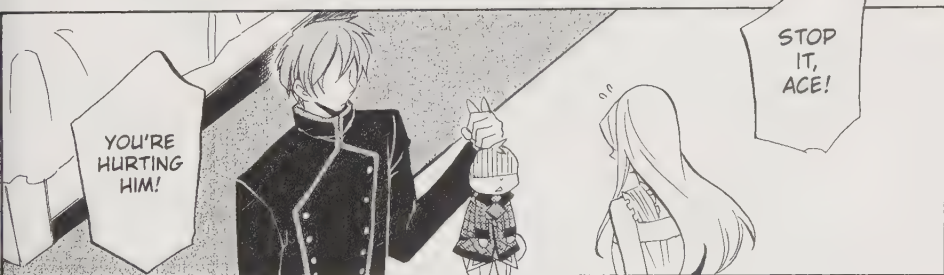




BUT  
NOW I CAN  
JUST CARRY  
YOU.



YOU LOOK  
HIDEOUS,  
PETER.



YOU'RE  
HURTING  
HIM!

STOP  
IT,  
ACE!



BUT DON'T  
FORGET THAT  
*THIS* LITTLE  
FURBALL IS  
STILL *THAT*  
BIG, CREEPY  
PETER.

HRNGH.



NOW I UNDER-  
STAND THE  
SWITCH...

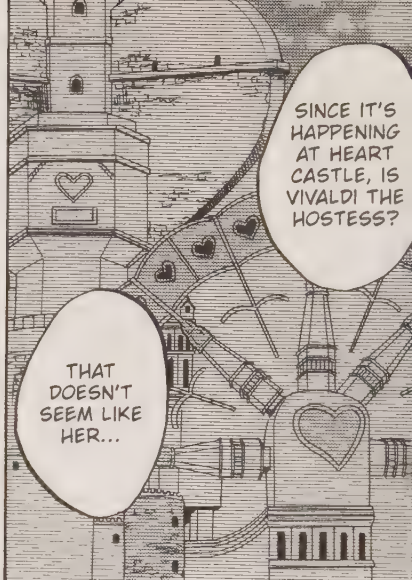
OH,  
I GET  
IT... YOU  
LIKE HIM  
BETTER IN  
THIS FORM,  
HUH,  
ALICE?

FROZE  
AFTER  
BEING  
GRABBED  
BY THE  
EARS.



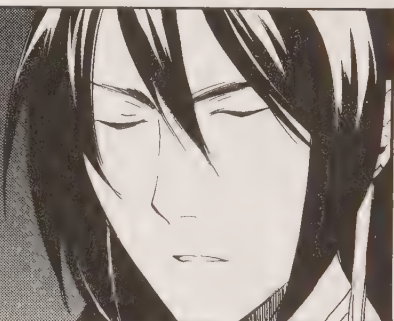


IT'S NOT AS  
IF MANY KNOW  
ABOUT HER  
TASTE FOR  
CUTE, FRILLY  
THINGS...



SINCE IT'S  
HAPPENING  
AT HEART  
CASTLE, IS  
VIVALDI THE  
HOSTESS?

IT'S  
TRUE  
THAT THE  
WOMAN HAS  
A TENDENCY  
TOWARD  
VIOLENCE.



THAT  
DOESN'T  
SEEM LIKE  
HER...

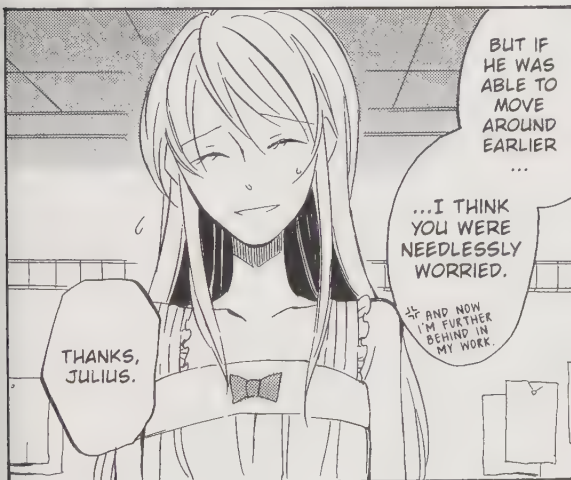
IT SEEMS  
IT IS TO BE A  
BALL THIS TIME.  
THE EVENT  
ITSELF MAY  
VARY, BUT SHE  
MUST GATHER  
INHABITANTS AND  
ENTERTAIN THEM  
PERIODICALLY.

THAT'S  
THE  
RULE.

BUT AS  
THE CASTLE  
PROPRIETOR,  
IT'S PART OF  
HER ROLE TO  
ENTERTAIN  
FROM TIME  
TO TIME.



...THE  
FELINE IS  
OUT OF  
DANGER  
NOW.

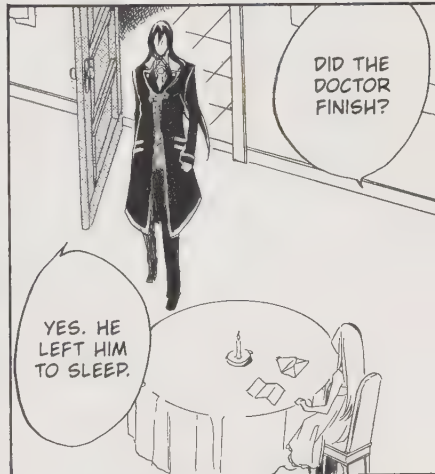


THANKS,  
JULIUS.

BUT IF  
HE WAS  
ABLE TO  
MOVE  
AROUND  
EARLIER  
...

...I THINK  
YOU WERE  
NEEDLESSLY  
WORRIED.

AND NOW  
I'M FURTHER  
BEHIND IN  
MY WORK.

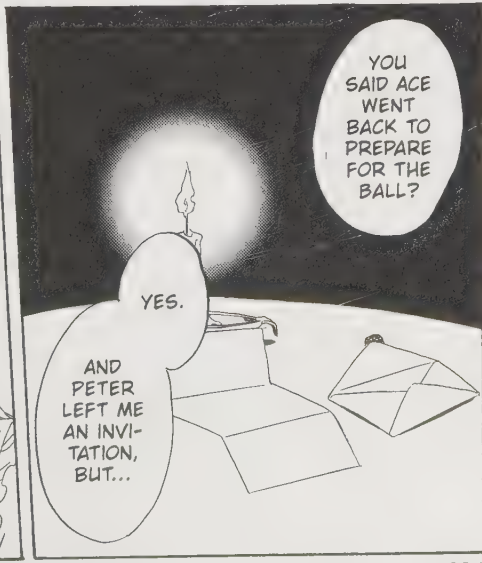


DID THE  
DOCTOR  
FINISH?

YES. HE  
LEFT HIM  
TO SLEEP.



...I'VE  
ONLY READ  
ABOUT  
BALLS  
IN FAIRY  
TALES.

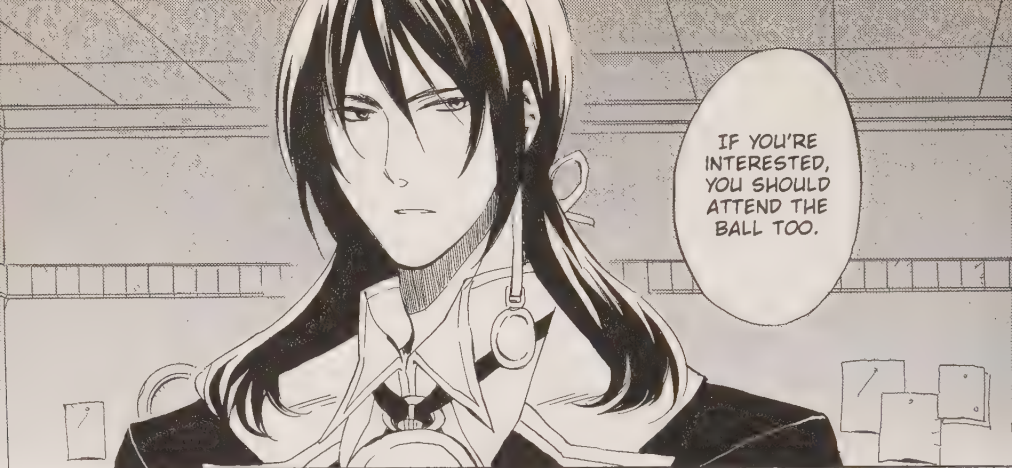


YOU  
SAID ACE  
WENT  
BACK TO  
PREPARE  
FOR THE  
BALL?

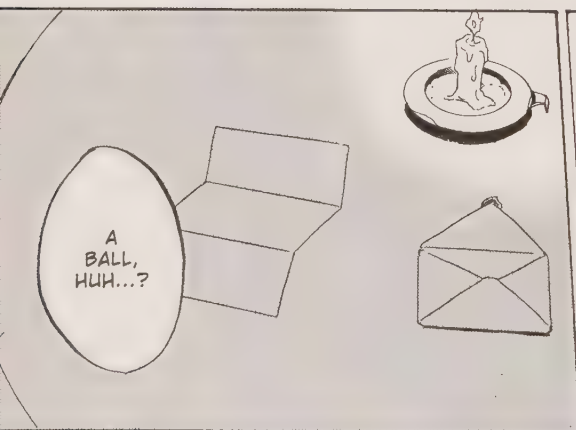
YES.

AND  
PETER  
LEFT ME  
AN INVITATION,  
BUT...

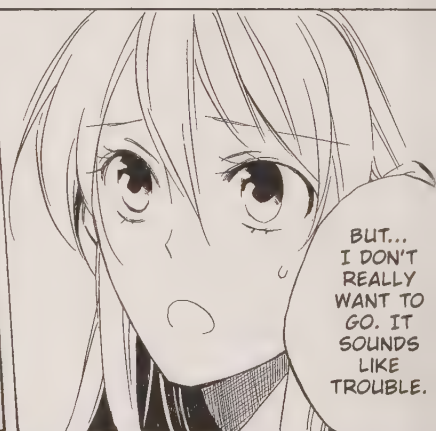




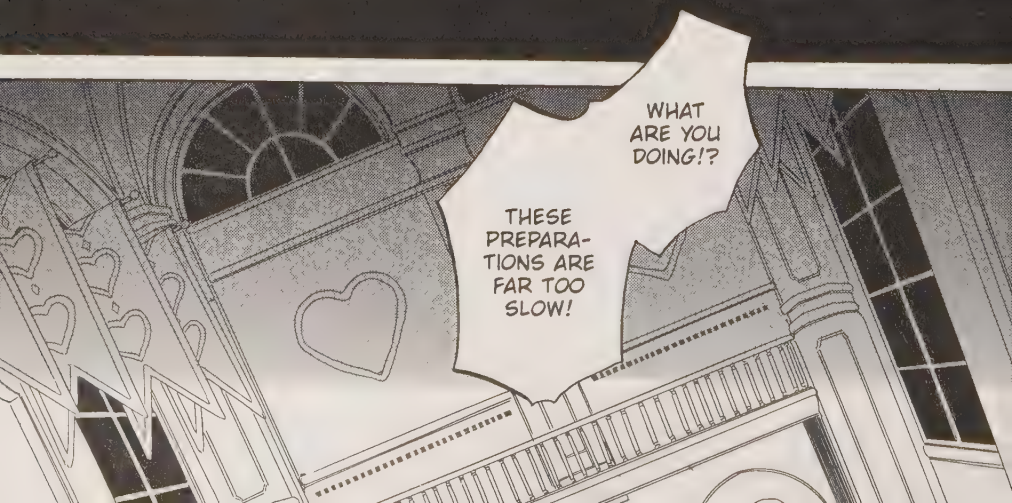
IF YOU'RE  
INTERESTED,  
YOU SHOULD  
ATTEND THE  
BALL TOO.



A  
BALL,  
HUH...?



BUT...  
I DON'T  
REALLY  
WANT TO  
GO. IT  
SOUNDS  
LIKE  
TROUBLE.



WHAT  
ARE YOU  
DOING!?

THESE  
PREPARA-  
TIONS ARE  
FAR TOO  
SLOW!



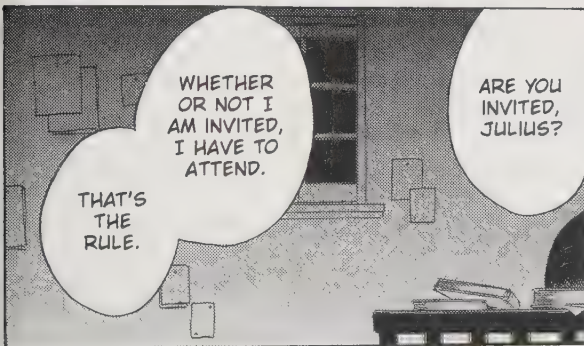


BUT  
AS HER  
GUESTS,  
THEY  
MUST  
BEHAVE.

...NOT  
THAT  
SAFETY IS  
GUAR-  
ANTEED,  
HOWEVER.



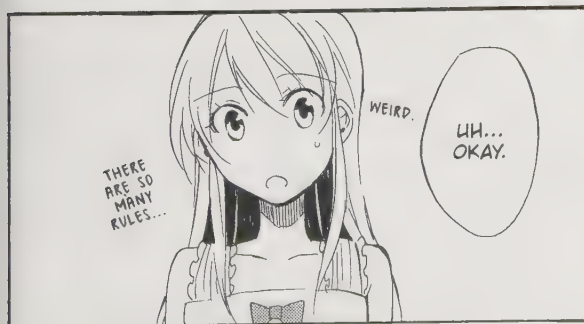
THEN...  
HER ENEMIES  
WILL BE  
THERE TOO?  
ISN'T THAT...  
DANGEROUS?



WHETHER  
OR NOT I  
AM INVITED,  
I HAVE TO  
ATTEND.

ARE YOU  
INVITED,  
JULIUS?

THAT'S  
THE  
RULE.



THERE  
ARE SO  
MANY  
RULES...

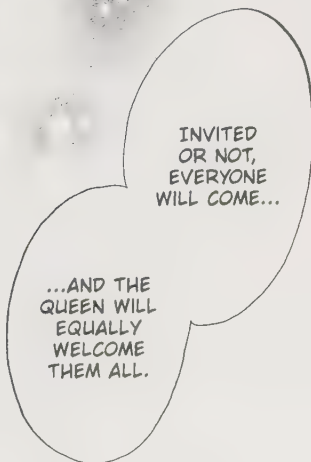
WEIRD.

UH...  
OKAY.



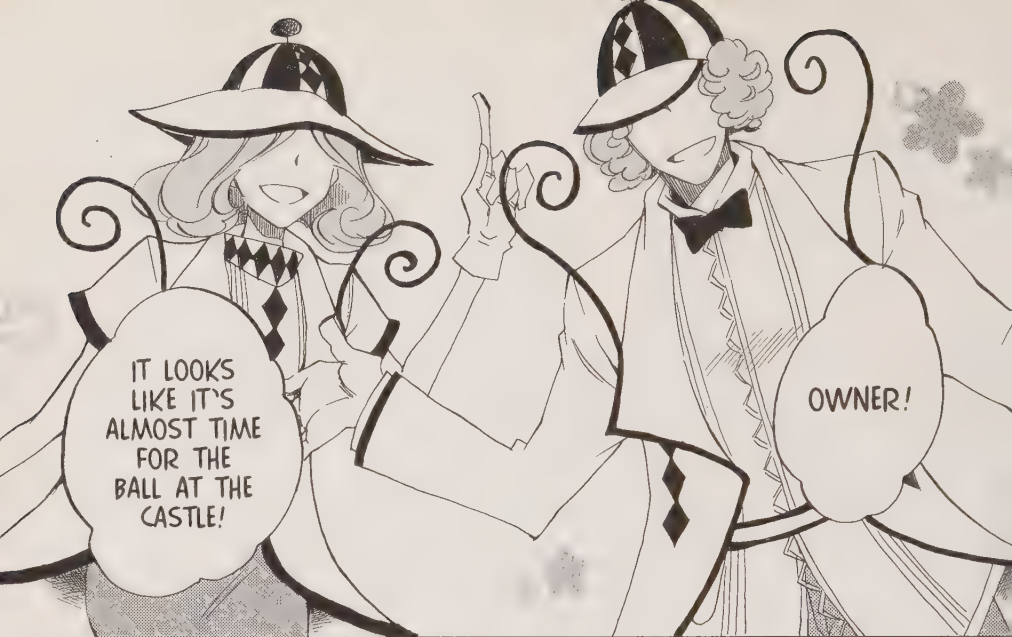
YOU MAY  
HAVE BEEN  
GIVEN AN  
INVITA-  
TION...

...BUT IN  
TRUTH,  
YOU  
CAN ENTER  
THE EVENT  
WHETHER  
YOU HAVE  
ONE OR  
NOT.



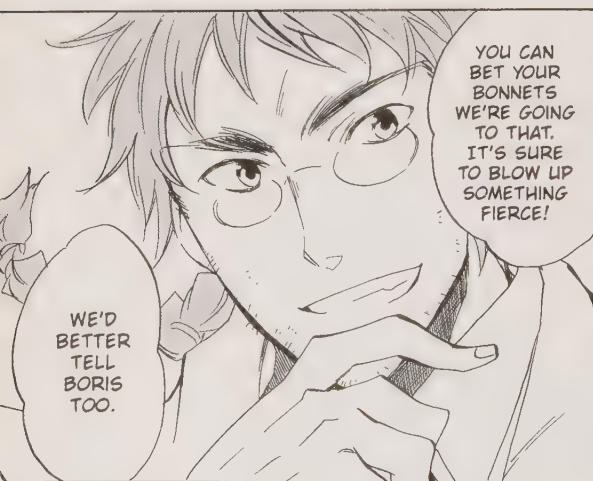
INVITED  
OR NOT,  
EVERYONE  
WILL COME...

...AND THE  
QUEEN WILL  
EQUALLY  
WELCOME  
THEM ALL.



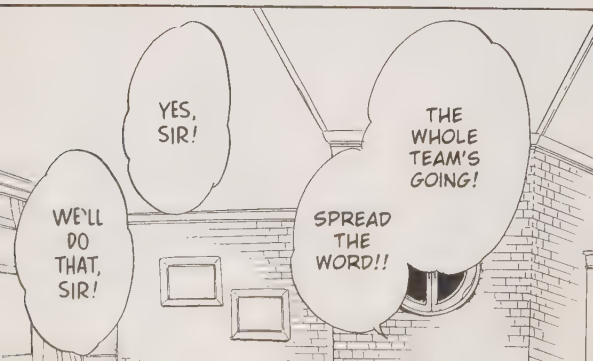
IT LOOKS  
LIKE IT'S  
ALMOST TIME  
FOR THE  
BALL AT THE  
CASTLE!

OWNER!



YOU CAN  
BET YOUR  
BONNETS  
WE'RE GOING  
TO THAT.  
IT'S SURE  
TO BLOW UP  
SOMETHING  
FIERCE!

WE'D  
BETTER  
TELL  
BORIS  
TOO.

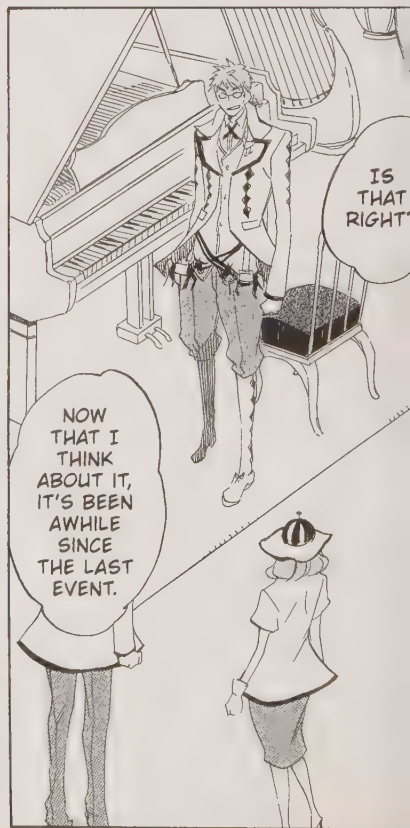


YES,  
SIR!

THE  
WHOLE  
TEAM'S  
GOING!

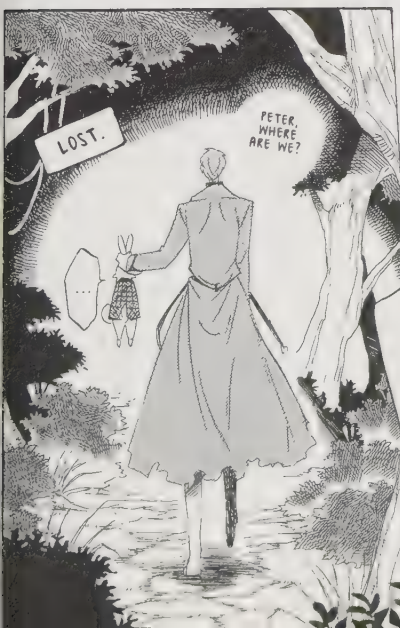
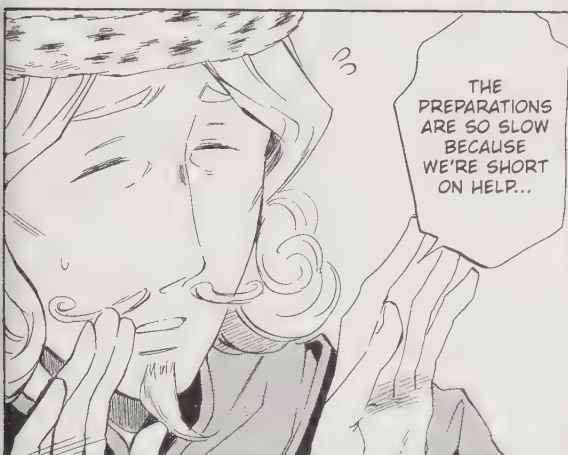
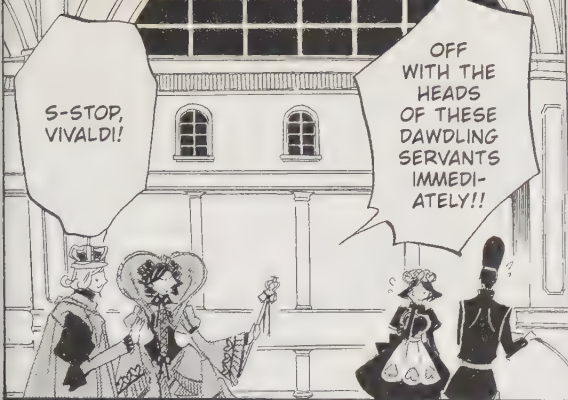
SPREAD  
THE  
WORD!!

WE'LL  
DO  
THAT,  
SIR!

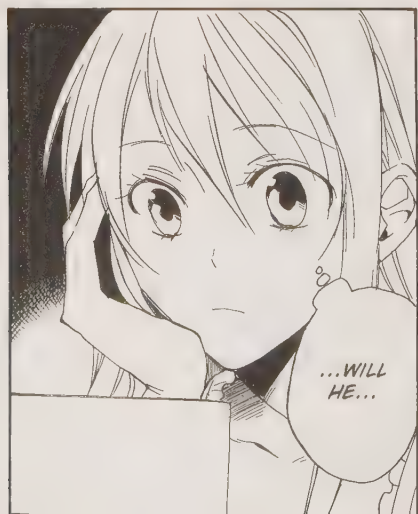
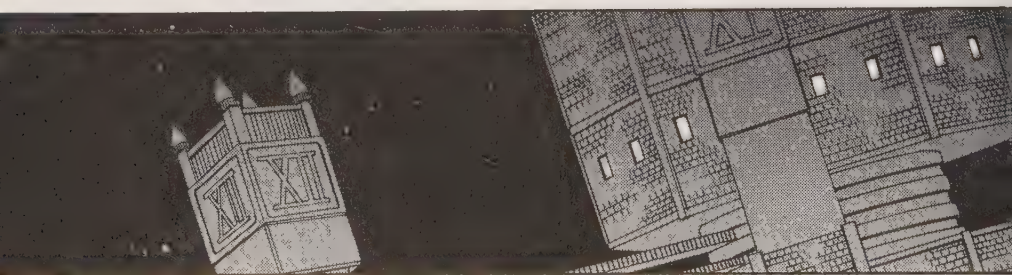


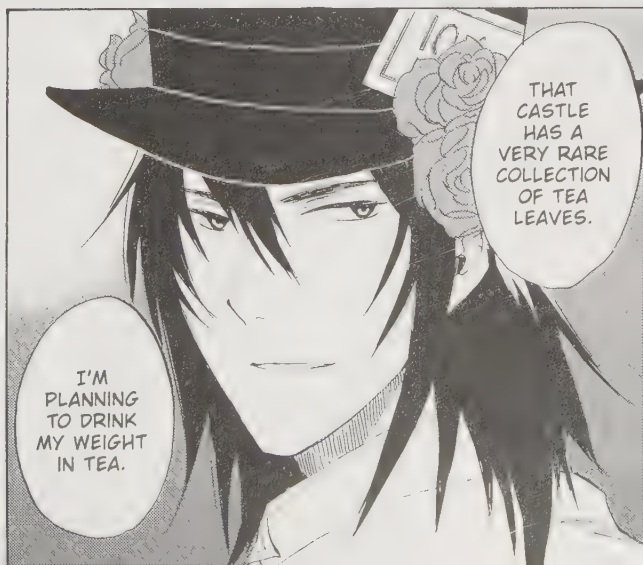
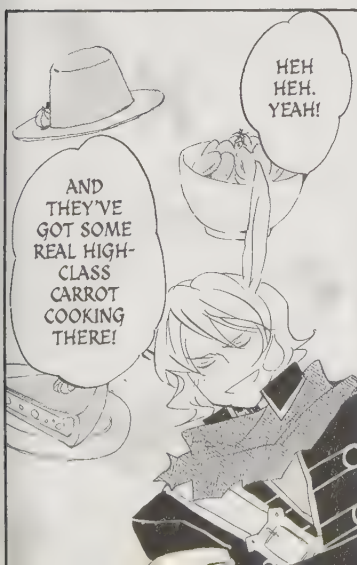
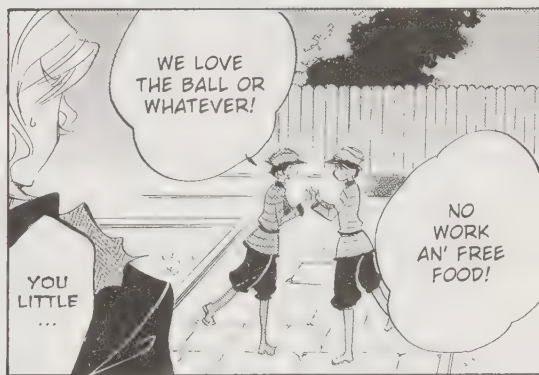
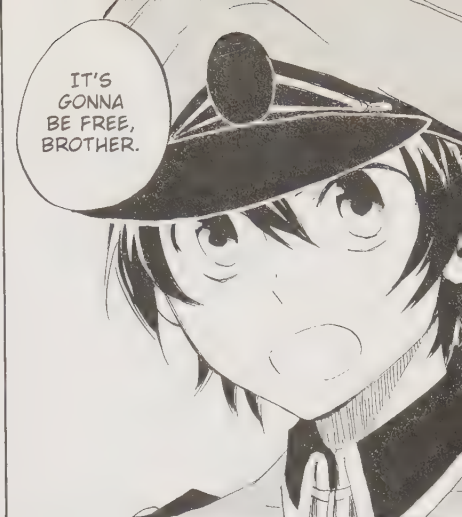
IS  
THAT  
RIGHT?

NOW  
THAT I  
THINK  
ABOUT IT,  
IT'S BEEN  
AWHILE  
SINCE  
THE LAST  
EVENT.











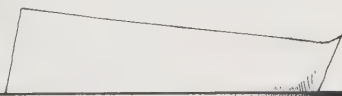
# ALICE IN THE COUNTRY OF JOKER

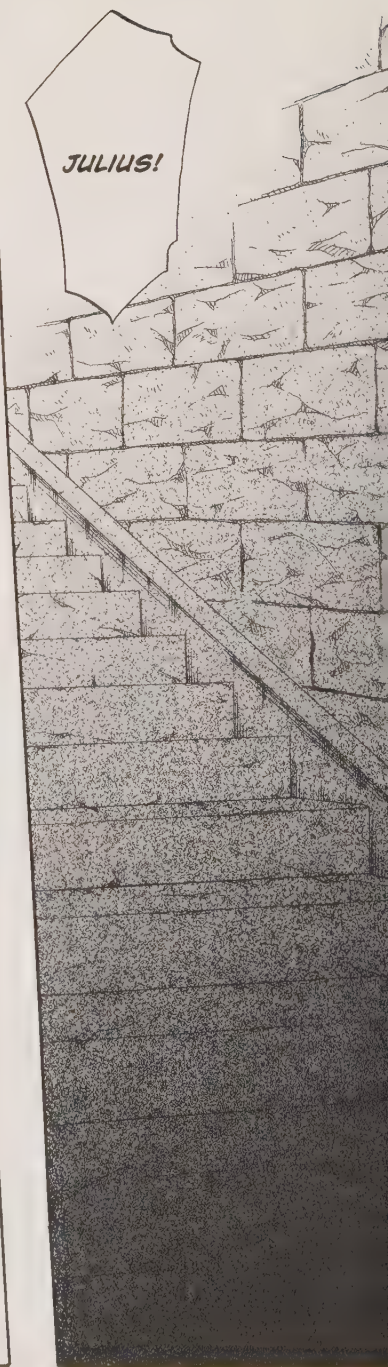
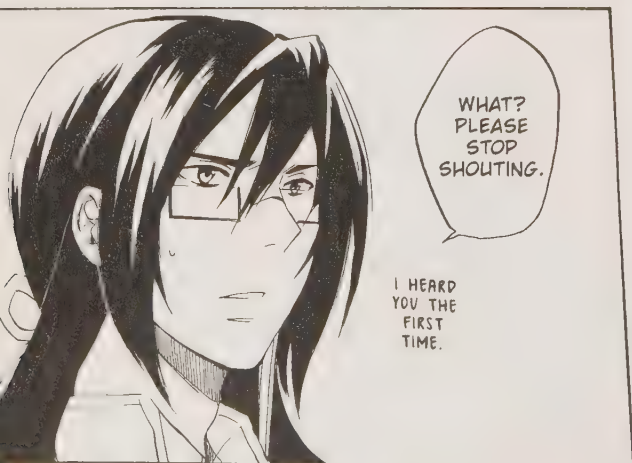
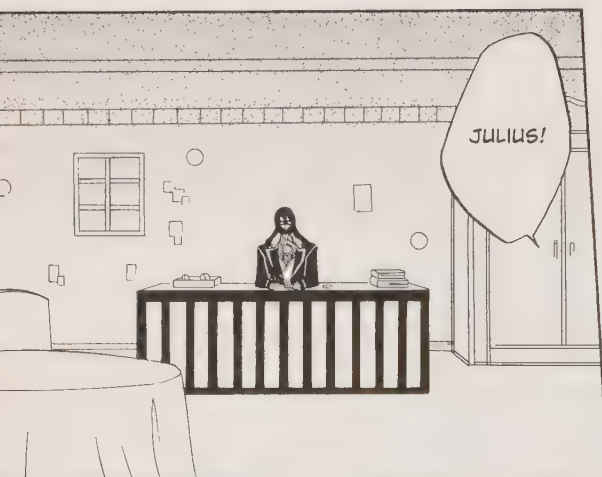


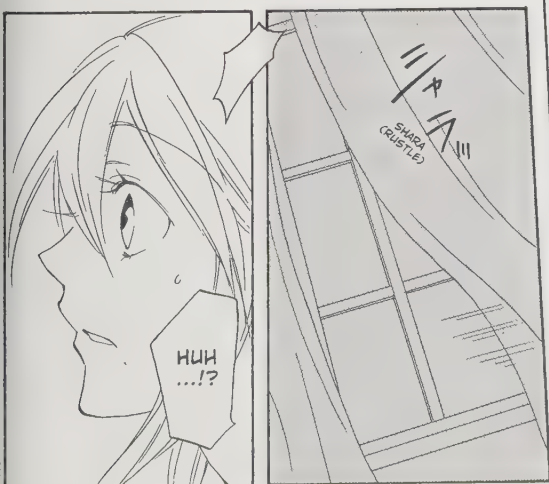
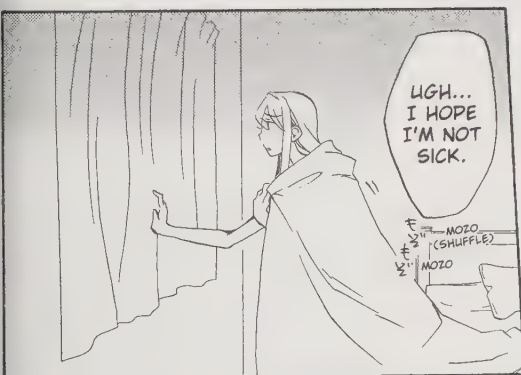
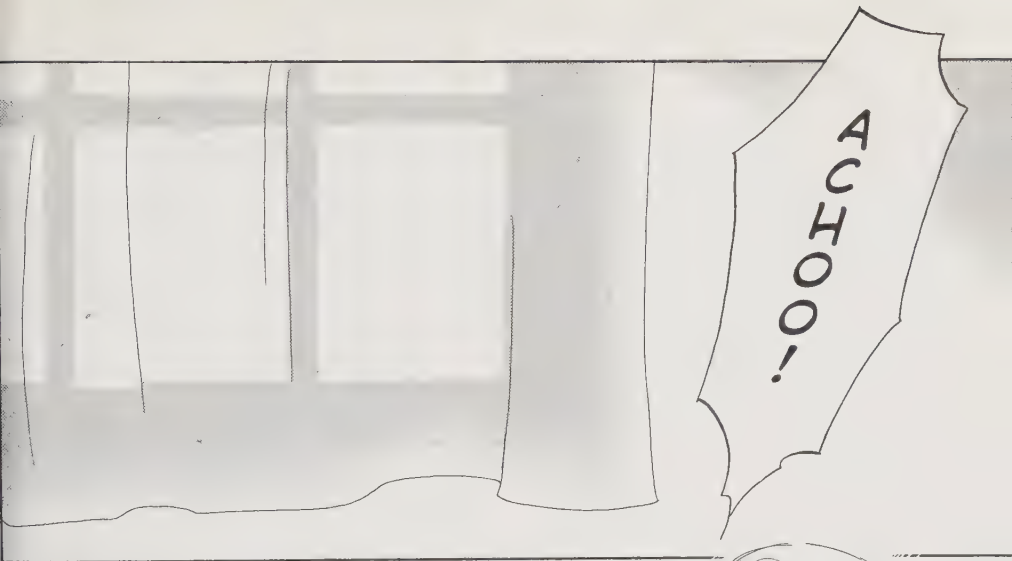




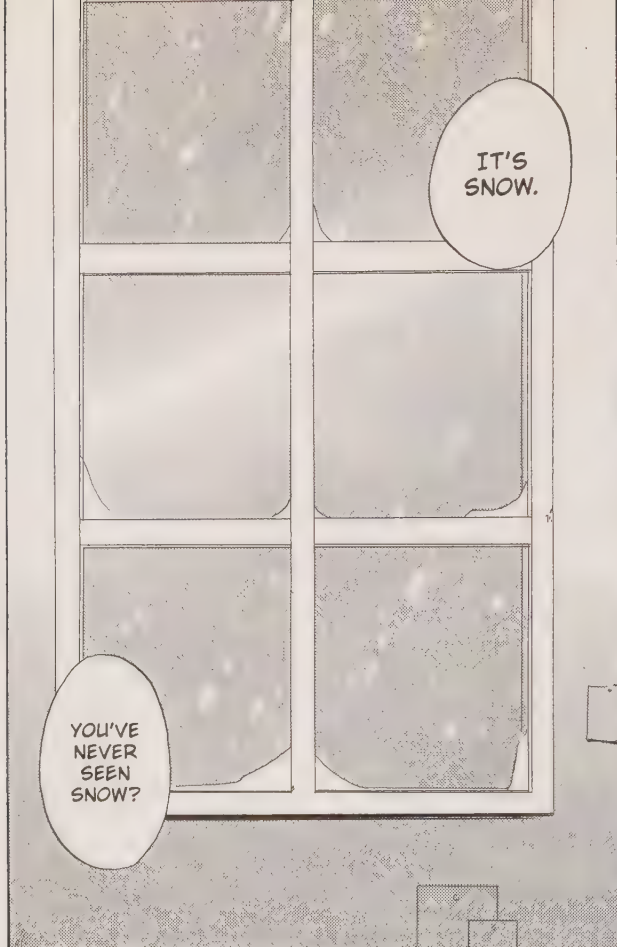
...WILL  
BLOOD  
BE THERE  
TOO—?





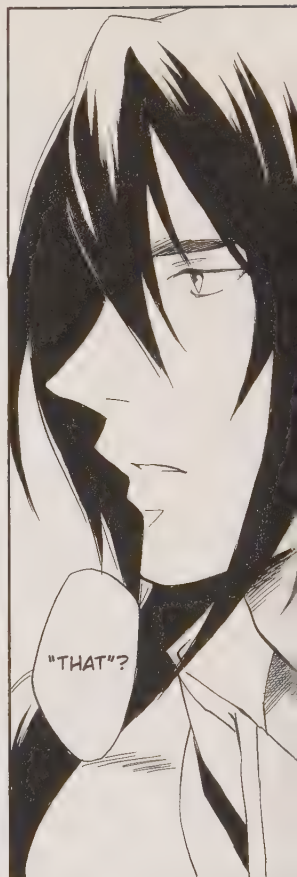




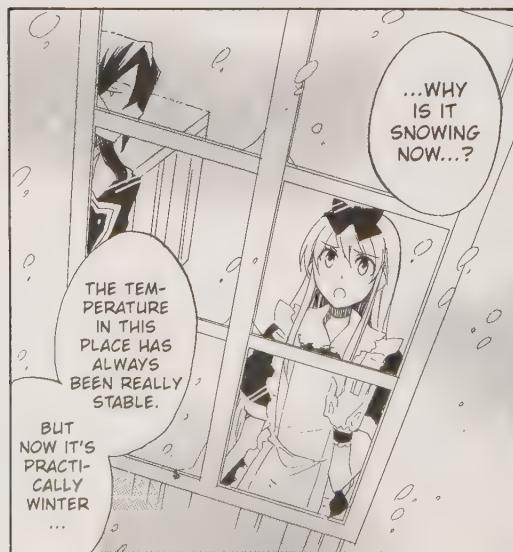


IT'S  
SNOW.

YOU'VE  
NEVER  
SEEN  
SNOW?



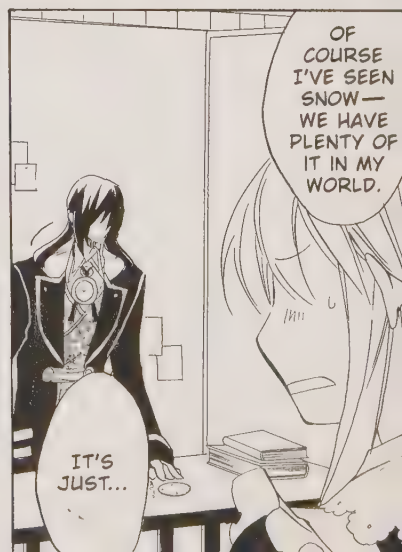
"THAT"?



...WHY  
IS IT  
SNOWING  
NOW...?

THE TEM-  
PERATURE  
IN THIS  
PLACE HAS  
ALWAYS  
BEEN REALLY  
STABLE.

BUT  
NOW IT'S  
PRACTI-  
CALLY  
WINTER  
...



OF  
COURSE  
I'VE SEEN  
SNOW—  
WE HAVE  
PLENTY OF  
IT IN MY  
WORLD.

IT'S  
JUST...

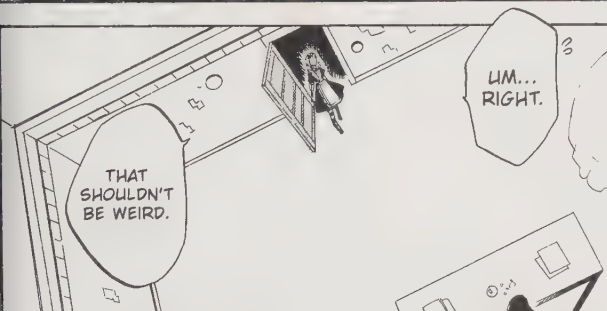


YOU  
WEREN'T  
EXPECTING  
ME?  
  
THIS  
IS MY  
ROOM.  
AND  
I WAS  
WORKING.



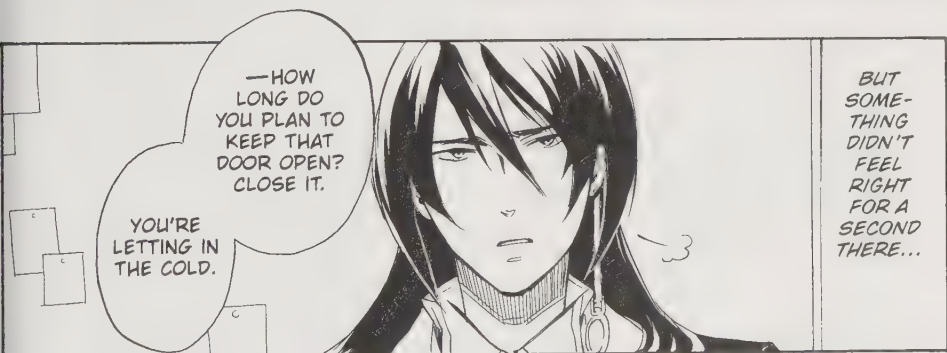
WAIT...

JULIUS...  
IS  
HERE?



THAT  
SHOULDN'T  
BE WEIRD.

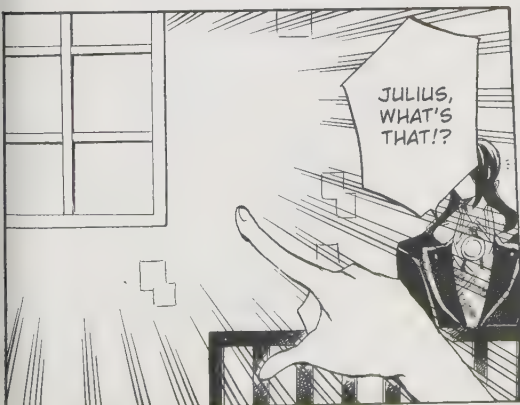
UM...  
RIGHT.



—HOW  
LONG DO  
YOU PLAN TO  
KEEP THAT  
DOOR OPEN?  
CLOSE IT.

YOU'RE  
LETTING IN  
THE COLD.

BUT  
SOME-  
THING  
DIDN'T  
FEEL  
RIGHT  
FOR A  
SECOND  
THERE...



JULIUS,  
WHAT'S  
THAT!?



COLD?

OH!  
  
THAT'S  
RIGHT!

—EXCUSE  
ME, CLOCK  
MAKER.

.....?  
WHAT'S THAT  
SUPPOSED TO  
MEAN? AND IT  
STILL DOESN'T  
EXPLAIN  
WHY IT'S  
SUDDENLY  
WINTER.

WOULD  
YOU LIKE  
SOME  
COCOA?

I MADE  
EXTRA  
AND  
THOUGHT  
I WOULD  
BRING  
SOME.

...IT'S  
THE  
LIZARD.  
WHAT  
NOW?

SORRY.  
I FORGOT  
TO CLOSE  
IT...

ISN'T  
IT RATHER  
COLD TO  
BE LEAVING  
THE DOOR  
OPEN LIKE  
THAT?

N-  
NICE  
TO  
MEET  
YOU.

IS HE  
ONE OF  
JULIUS'S  
FRIENDS  
...?

...RIGHT?

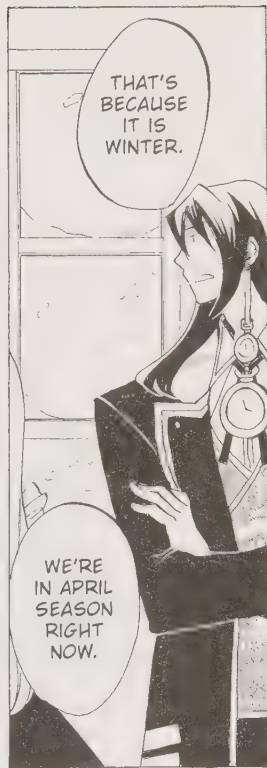
OH...  
IT'S  
YOU.







APRIL...



THAT'S BECAUSE IT IS WINTER.

WE'RE IN APRIL SEASON RIGHT NOW.



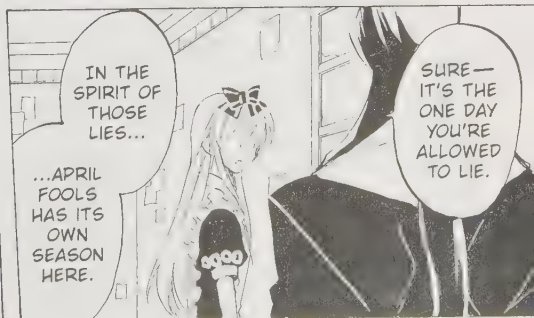
EXACTLY.

SO A SEASON... WHERE YOU CAN LIE?



SO YOU KNOW OF APRIL FOOLS?

NOT APRIL FOOLS?



IN THE SPIRIT OF THOSE LIES...

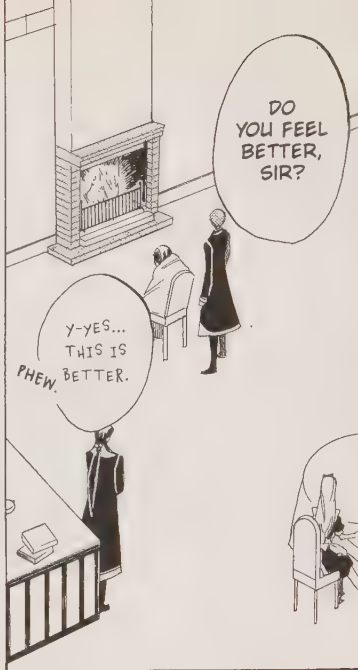
...APRIL FOOLS HAS ITS OWN SEASON HERE.

SURE— IT'S THE ONE DAY YOU'RE ALLOWED TO LIE.



UM, I  
HAVE A  
QUES-  
TION.

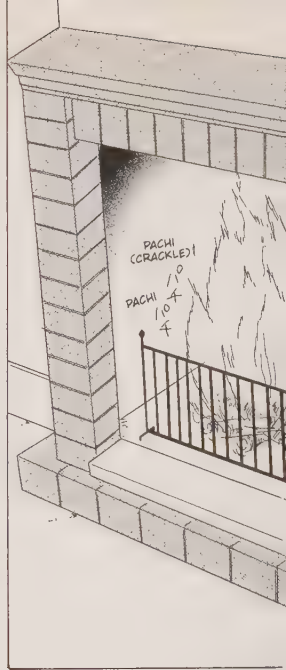
SINCE  
WHEN  
DO WE  
HAVE A  
FIRE-  
PLACE...?



DO  
YOU FEEL  
BETTER,  
SIR?

Y-YES...  
THIS IS  
BETTER.

PHEW.

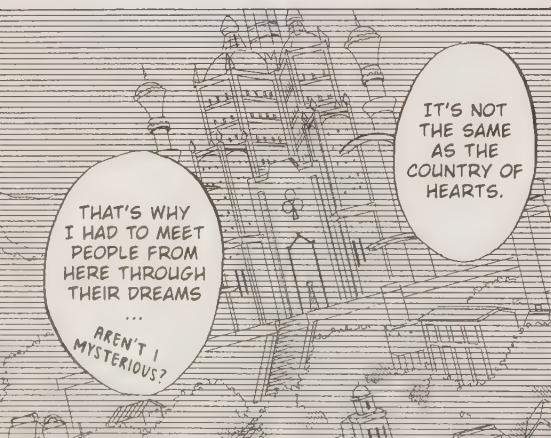


PACHI  
(CRACKLE!)  
1/0  
PACHI 4  
1/0 4



COUNTRY  
OF  
CLOVER?

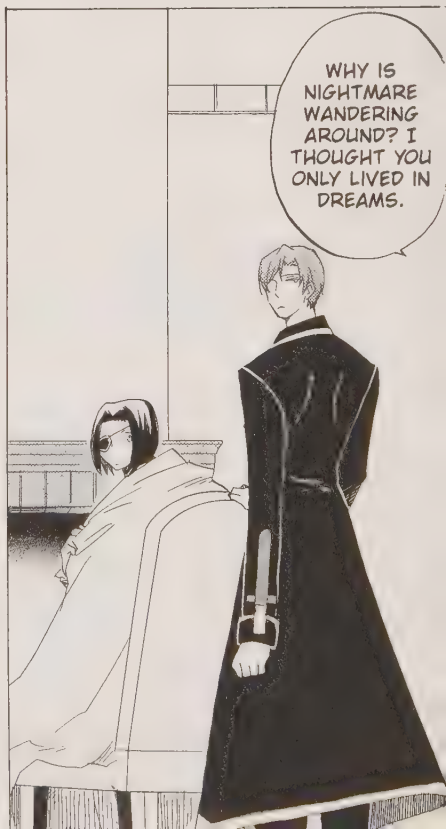
GRAY  
AND I ARE  
CITIZENS  
OF THE  
COUNTRY OF  
CLOVER.



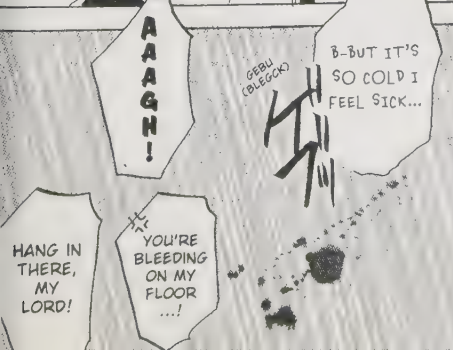
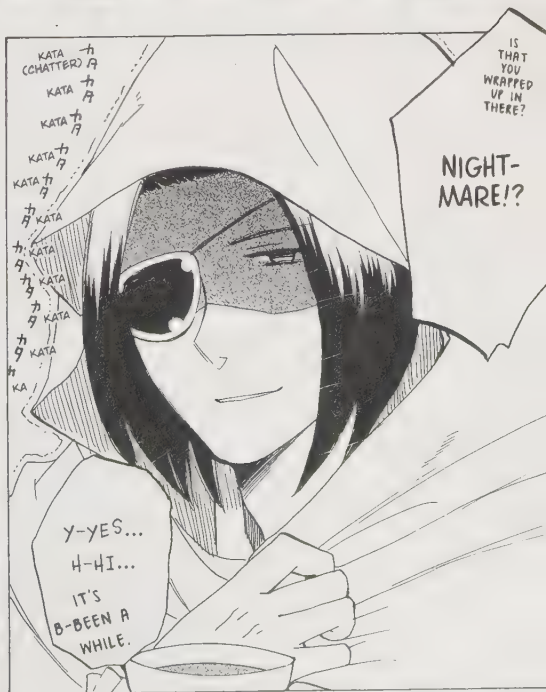
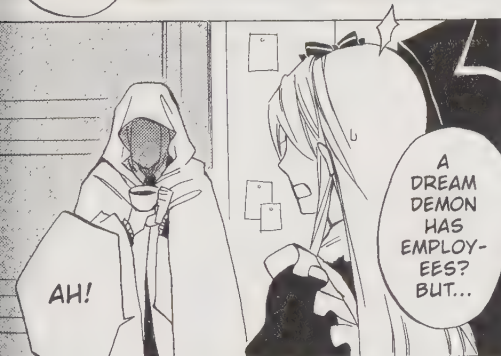
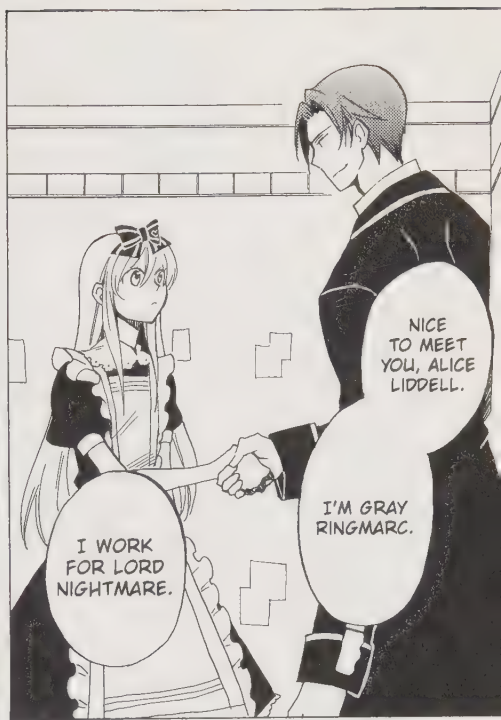
THAT'S WHY  
I HAD TO MEET  
PEOPLE FROM  
HERE THROUGH  
THEIR DREAMS  
...

AREN'T I  
MYSTERIOUS?

IT'S NOT  
THE SAME  
AS THE  
COUNTRY OF  
HEARTS.



WHY IS  
NIGHTMARE  
WANDERING  
AROUND? I  
THOUGHT YOU  
ONLY LIVED IN  
DREAMS.



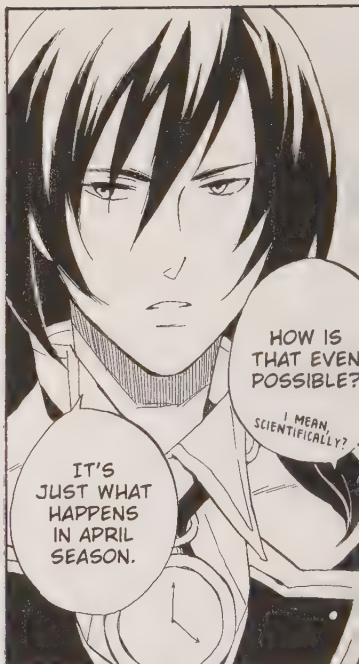




...THIS IS REALLY HARD TO GET MY HEAD AROUND.



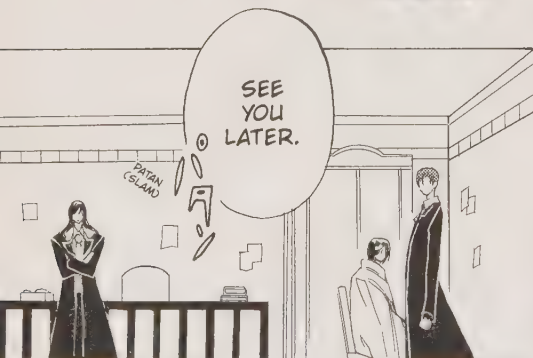
...I THINK I NEED TO SEE IT FOR MYSELF.



HOW IS THAT EVEN POSSIBLE?

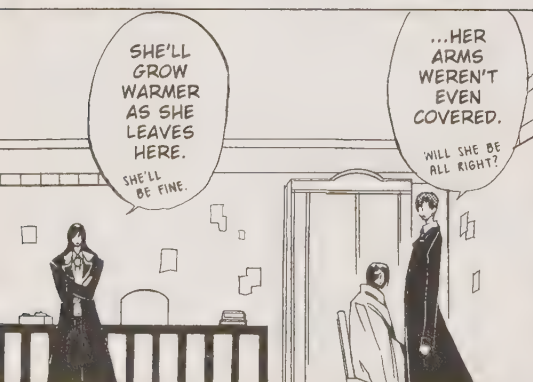
I MEAN, SCIENTIFICALLY?

IT'S JUST WHAT HAPPENS IN APRIL SEASON.



SEE YOU LATER.

PITAN ISLAND



SHE'LL GROW WARMER AS SHE LEAVES HERE.  
SHE'LL BE FINE.

...HER ARMS WEREN'T EVEN COVERED.

WILL SHE BE ALL RIGHT?

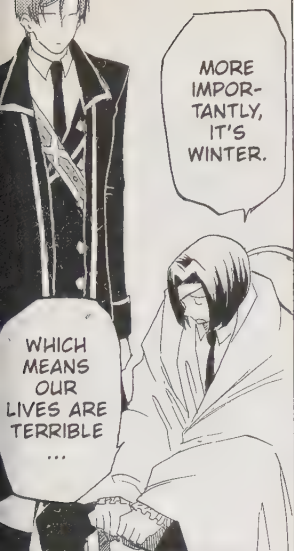


ARE YOU SERIOUS? IT'S FREEZING OUT THERE.

COME OVER HERE AND DRINK GRAY'S COCOA AND RELAX.

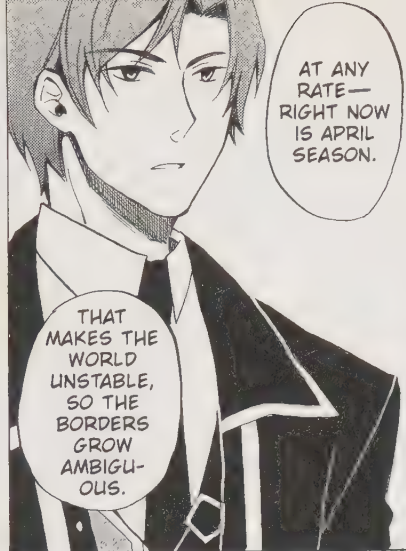
THERE'S SOME LEFT.

I'LL HAVE IT WHEN I COME BACK, OKAY?



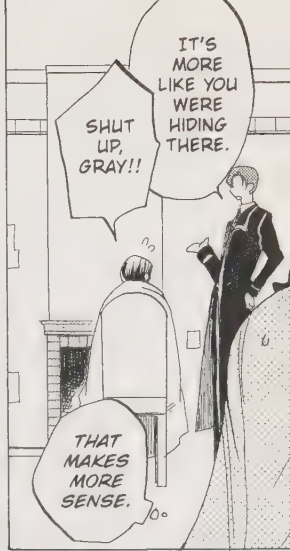
MORE IMPORTANTLY, IT'S WINTER.

WHICH MEANS OUR LIVES ARE TERRIBLE ...



AT ANY RATE—RIGHT NOW IS APRIL SEASON.

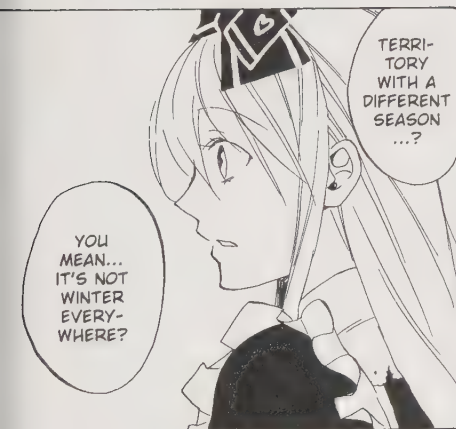
THAT MAKES THE WORLD UNSTABLE, SO THE BORDERS GROW AMBIGUOUS.



IT'S MORE LIKE YOU WERE HIDING THERE.

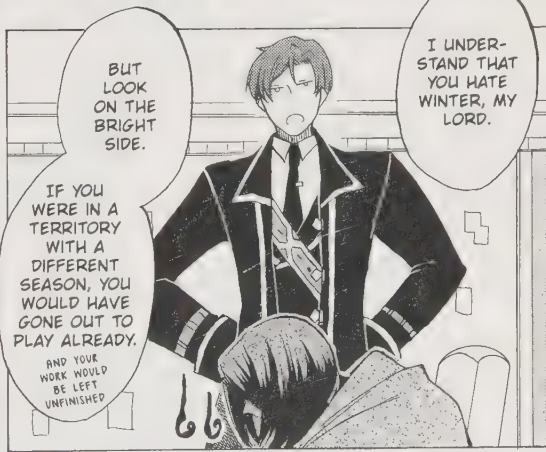
SHUT UP, GRAY!!

THAT MAKES MORE SENSE.



TERRITORY WITH A DIFFERENT SEASON ...?

YOU MEAN... IT'S NOT WINTER EVERYWHERE?



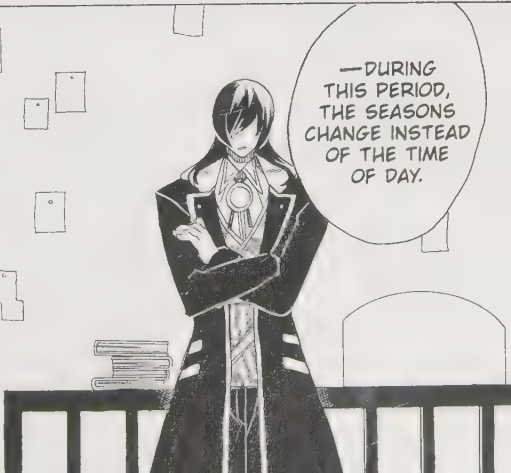
BUT LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE.

IF YOU WERE IN A TERRITORY WITH A DIFFERENT SEASON, YOU WOULD HAVE GONE OUT TO PLAY ALREADY.  
AND YOUR WORK WOULD BE LEFT UNFINISHED

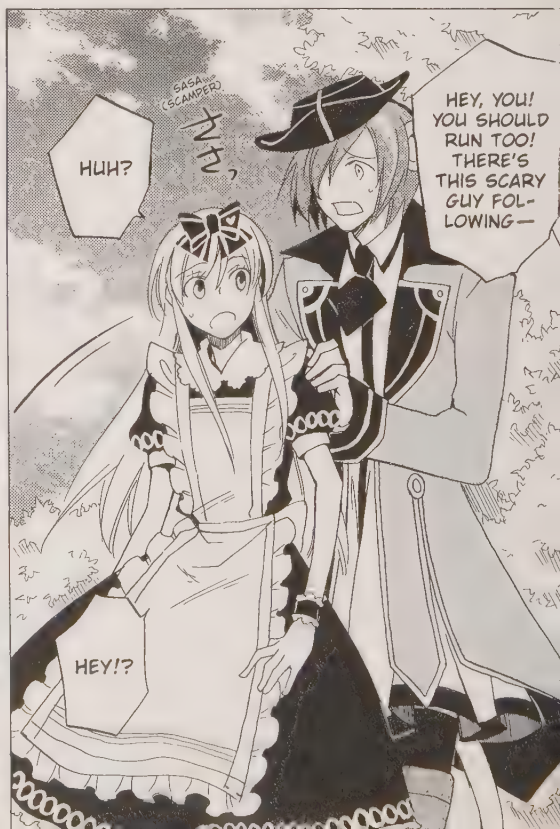
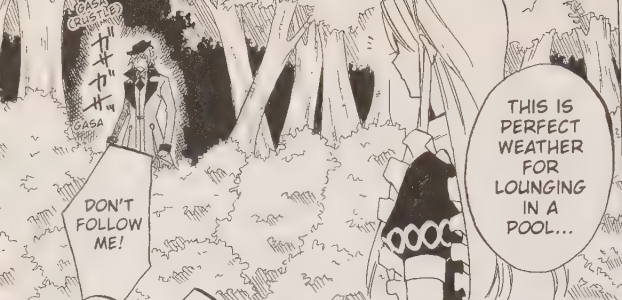
I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU HATE WINTER, MY LORD.



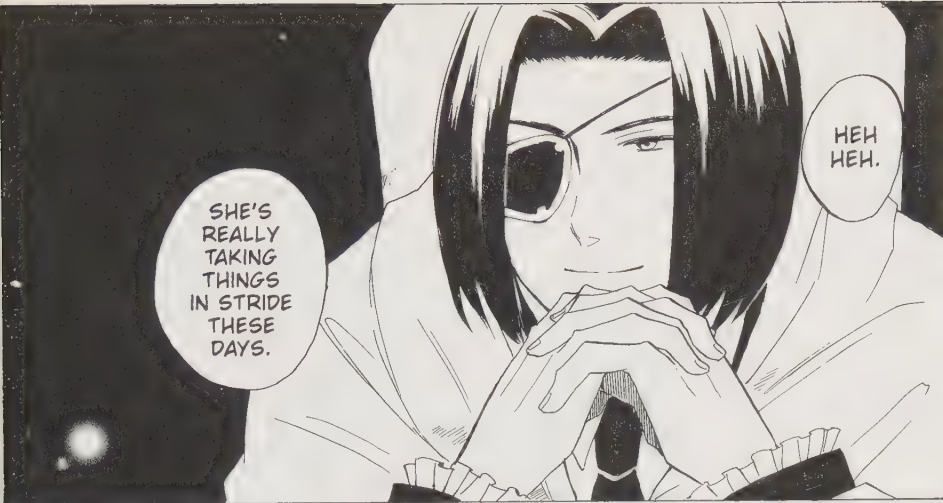
AND THEY DIFFER DEPENDING ON THE AREA YOU'RE IN.



—DURING THIS PERIOD, THE SEASONS CHANGE INSTEAD OF THE TIME OF DAY.



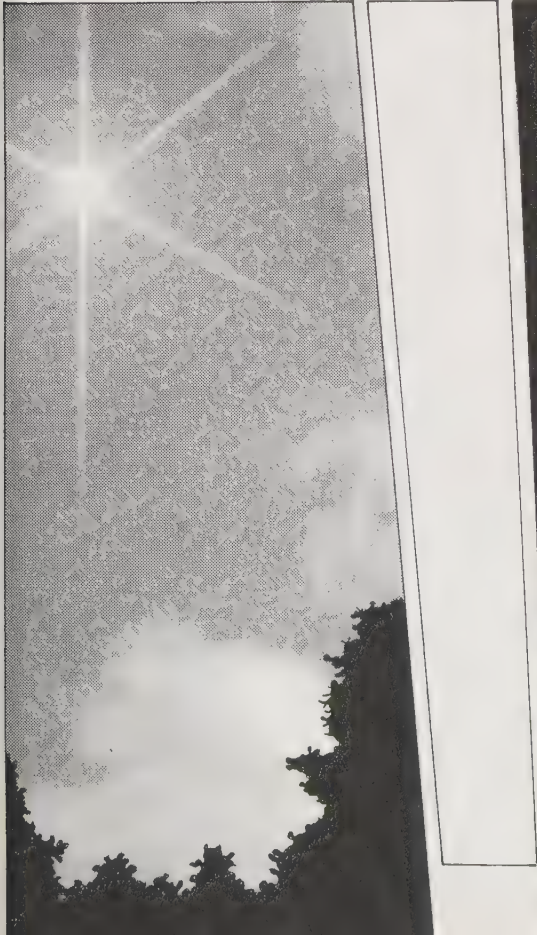




A close-up of a character with short dark hair and a monocle over their right eye. They are wearing a white ruffled collar. Their hands are clasped in front of their mouth. The background is dark with a single bright light source on the left.

SHE'S  
REALLY  
TAKING  
THINGS  
IN STRIDE  
THESE  
DAYS.

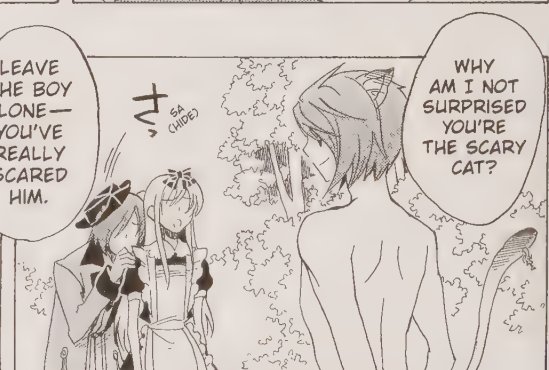
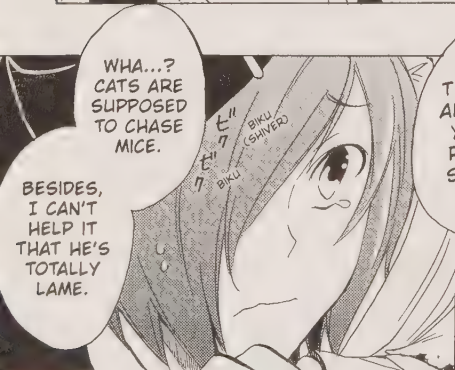
HEH  
HEH.



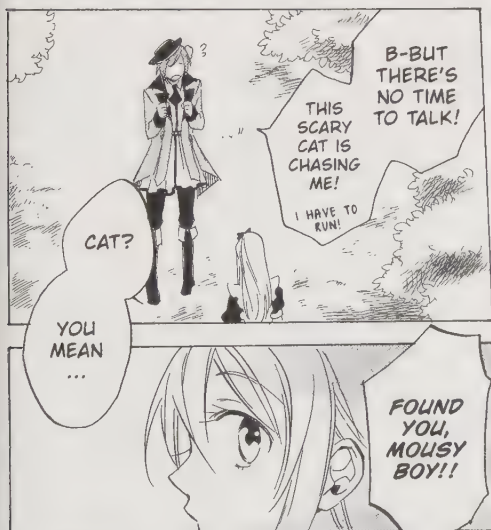
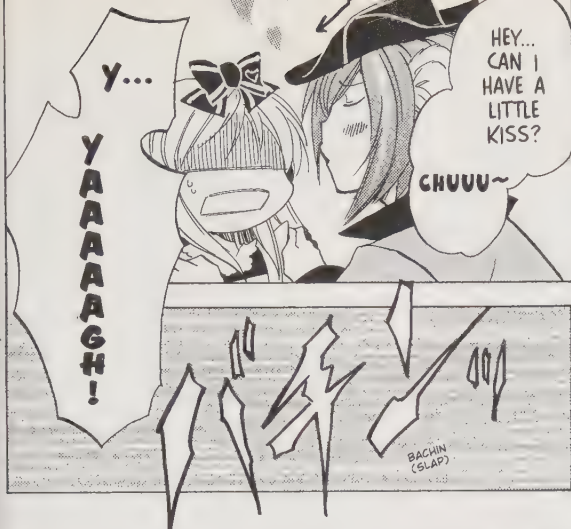
Alice is shown from behind, looking up at a bright, star-like light in a dark sky. She is wearing a dark dress with a large white bow at the back and striped stockings. The scene is framed by a vertical white line.

WELL,  
ALICE...

...LET'S  
SEE IF YOU  
ENJOY THIS  
GAME—











GYU  
(SQUEEZE)

3

...NOW  
THAT IT'S  
SPRING?

I  
NOTICED  
THE  
CHERRY  
BLOS-  
SOMS.

44,  
NO.



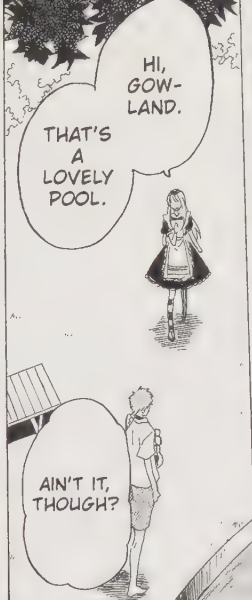
I'VE  
NEVER  
HEARD OF  
A RULE  
LIKE  
THAT.

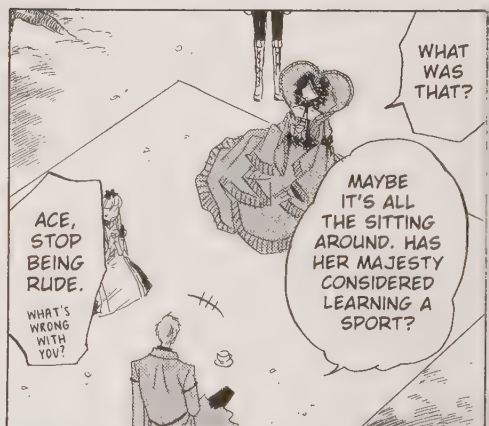
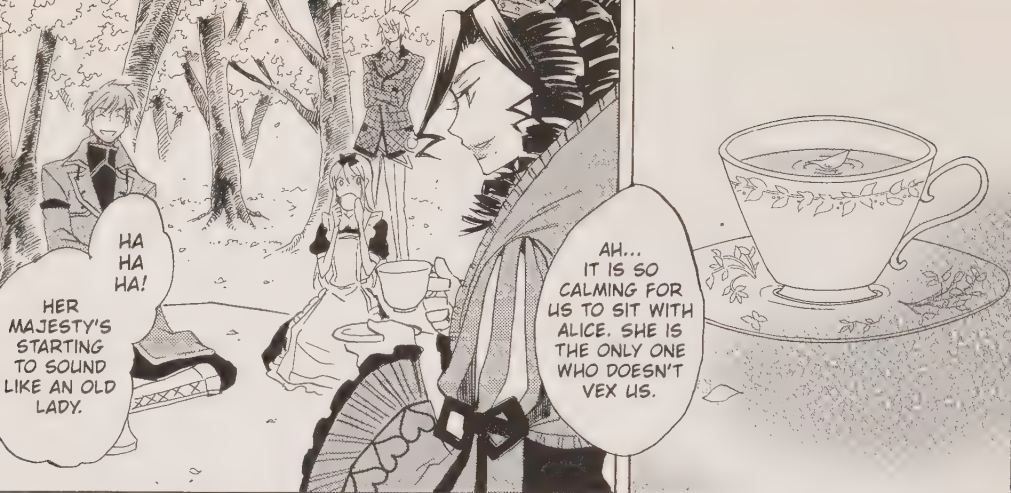
IN THIS  
WORLD,  
SPRING  
IS THE  
SEASON  
OF LOVE.

YOU  
HAVE TO  
FALL IN LOVE  
DURING  
SPRING.  
YOU HAVE  
TO—IT'S  
A RULE!

REALLY  
!?







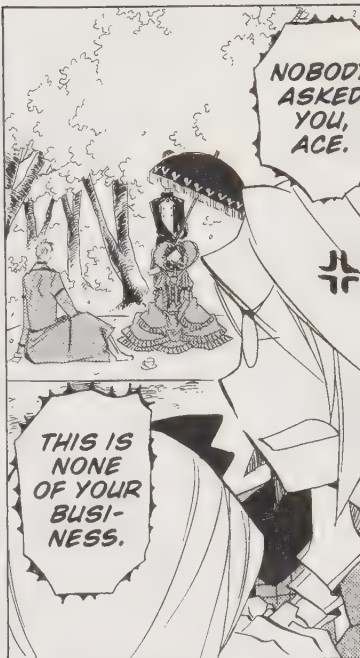




I'M A  
KNIGHT OF  
JUSTICE.

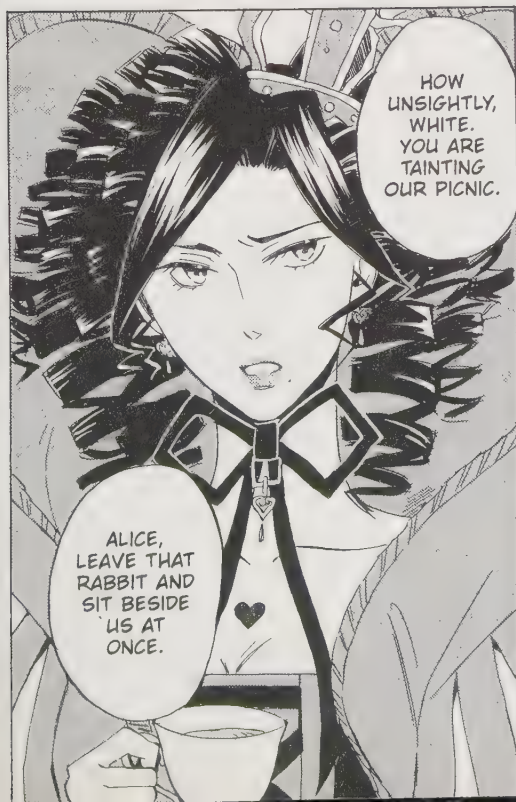
I CAN'T  
LET YOU  
LIE IN  
FRONT  
OF ME.

...LIE?



NOBODY  
ASKED  
YOU,  
ACE.

THIS IS  
NONE  
OF YOUR  
BUSINESS.



HOW  
UNSIGHTLY,  
WHITE.  
YOU ARE  
TAINTING  
OUR PICNIC.

ALICE,  
LEAVE THAT  
RABBIT AND  
SIT BESIDE  
US AT  
ONCE.



HA  
HA  
HA!

UNLESS  
PETER'S  
JUST  
GETTING IN  
THE APRIL  
SEASON  
SPIRIT.

HANDS  
OFF.

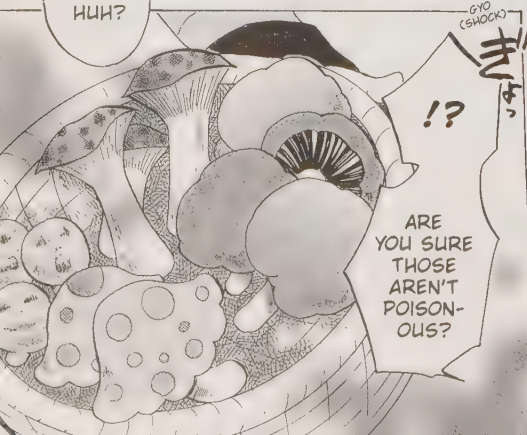
SO  
THAT  
WAS A  
LIE...

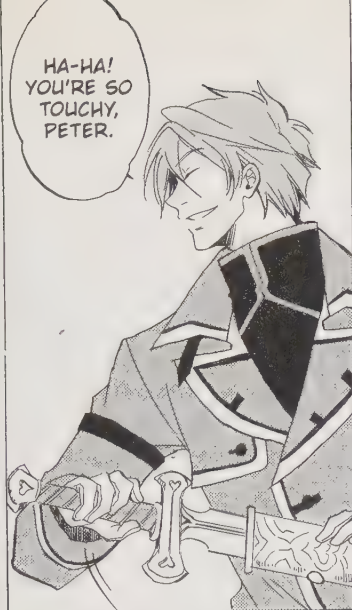


I JUST  
WANT  
TO GET  
CLOSER  
TO YOU.

PLEASE  
DON'T  
GIVE ME  
THOSE  
COLD  
EYES!

SPRING  
TRULY  
IS THE  
FINEST  
SEASON TO  
NURTURE  
OUR LOVE.





HA-HA!  
YOU'RE SO  
TOUCHY,  
PETER.



SA  
(WHOOOSH)

GAHA  
(GIGGLING)

PAN  
(BANG)

FEEL  
FREE TO  
GET LOST  
IN THE  
WOODS ON  
YOUR OWN!

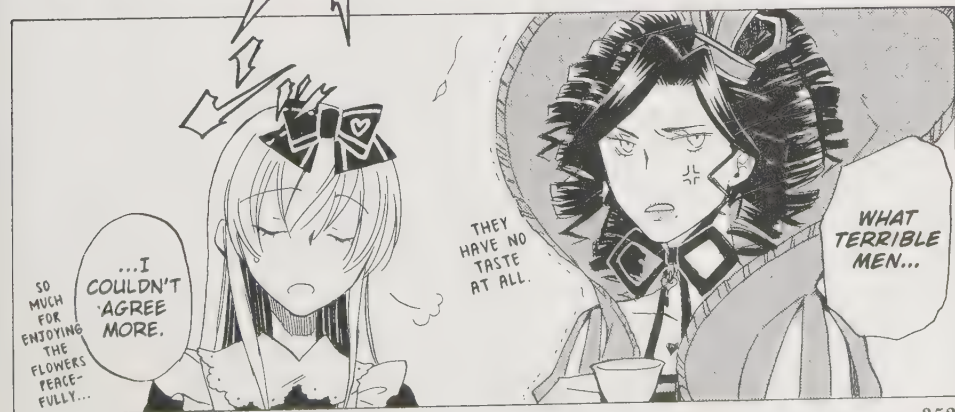


OOOH,  
I LIKE  
IT.

THEN, UM...  
I'LL CUT  
YOU UP INTO  
LITTLE PIECES  
AND SCATTER  
YOU LIKE  
PETALS IN  
THE WIND!

PREPARE  
YOURSELF!

I'LL  
PAINT  
THESE  
BLOSSOMS  
RED WITH  
YOUR  
BLOOD.



SO  
MUCH  
FOR  
ENJOYING  
THE  
FLOWERS  
PEACE-  
FULLY...

...I  
COULDN'T  
'AGREE  
MORE.

THEY  
HAVE NO  
TASTE  
AT ALL.

WHAT  
TERRIBLE  
MEN...





IT'S SO  
EASY TO  
FORGET  
THESE  
ODDBALLS  
ARE THE  
MAFIA.

HEH  
HEH.



...BUT  
I CAN'T  
HELP  
BUT LIKE  
THIS  
SIDE OF  
THEM.

I HATE  
HOW THEY  
MAKE A  
LIVING...

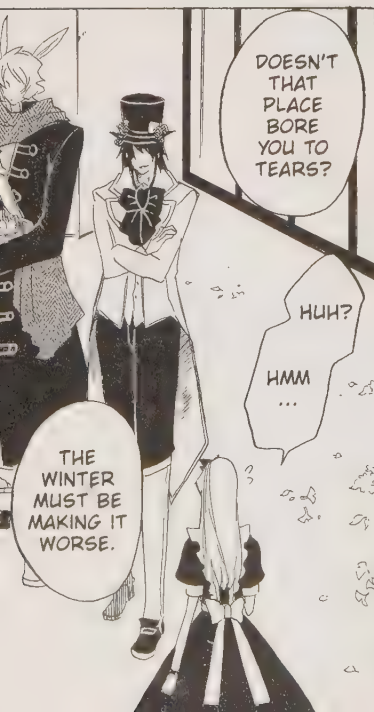


UGH.

CARROT...  
PARTY.  
SOUNDS  
LIKE...  
FUN.

I SEE A  
SEA OF  
ORANGE  
...

SOUNDS  
LIKE HE  
HATES THE  
IDEA...

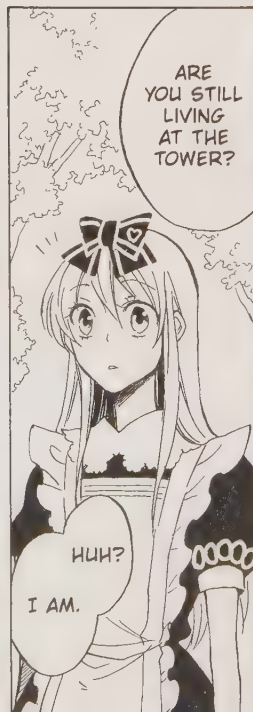


DOESN'T  
THAT  
PLACE  
BORE  
YOU TO  
TEARS?

HUH?

MMM  
...

THE  
WINTER  
MUST BE  
MAKING IT  
WORSE.



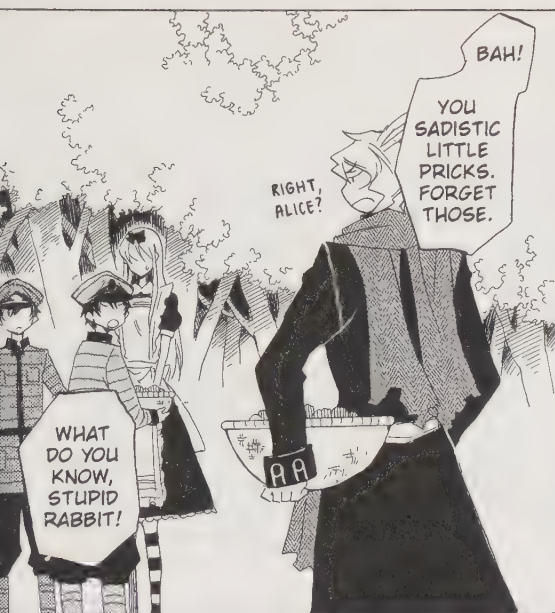
ARE  
YOU STILL  
LIVING  
AT THE  
TOWER?

HUH?

I AM.



AND  
YOU,  
YOUNG  
LADY.



BAH!

YOU  
SADISTIC  
LITTLE  
PRICKS.  
FORGET  
THOSE.

RIGHT,  
ALICE?

WHAT  
DO YOU  
KNOW,  
STUPID  
RABBIT!



SURE  
THEY  
ARE!

AN'  
THEY  
WORK  
REAL FAST.  
THEY'RE  
SOOOO  
COOL.

WE  
TURN  
'EM INTO  
POWDER  
AN' SPREAD  
IT AROUND  
PLACES.

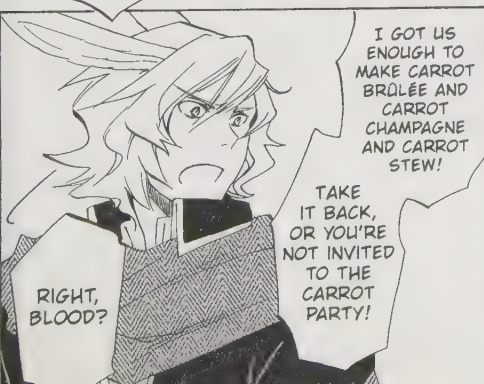
CAN'T WAIT!



YOU  
CAN PICK  
CARROTS  
ALL YEAR,  
STUPID  
RABBIT!

THAT'S  
LAME,  
STUPID  
RABBIT!

WHA...?  
DON'T  
MAKE  
FUN OF  
CARROTS!



I GOT US  
ENOUGH TO  
MAKE CARROT  
BRÔLÉE AND  
CARROT  
CHAMPAGNE  
AND CARROT  
STEW!

TAKE  
IT BACK,  
OR YOU'RE  
NOT INVITED  
TO THE  
CARROT  
PARTY!

RIGHT,  
BLOOD?



AUTUMN'S  
THE SEASON  
OF HARVEST.  
MAKE  
YOURSELVES  
USEFUL AND  
GET US STUFF  
WE CAN EAT!

HUGE AMOUNT  
OF CARROTS



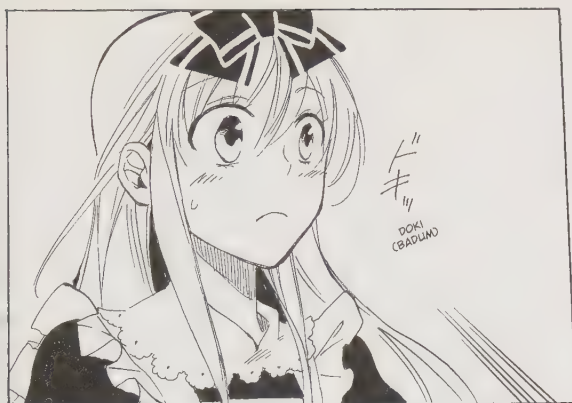
...THE  
CLOCK  
TOWER IS A  
PLACE I CAN  
GO HOME  
TO.

I CAN  
RETURN  
TO THE  
TOWER  
BE-  
CAUSE...

...I KNOW  
I CAN  
ALWAYS  
COME VISIT  
WHENEVER  
I FEEL  
LIKE IT.

I'LL  
VISIT  
AGAIN  
SOON!





SHARD  
(JANGLE)

ニヤニヤ

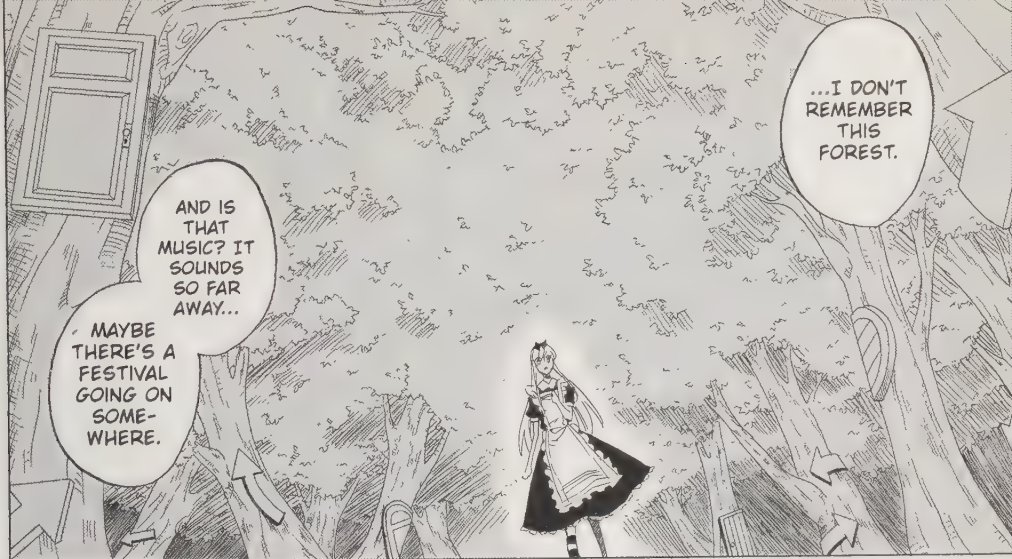
...I  
NEED  
TO  
MAKE  
UP MY  
MIND.

I DON'T  
WANT TO BE  
SOMEONE WHO  
DOESN'T BAT  
AN EYE AT  
VIOLENCE OR  
DANGER.

—HELLO,  
LITTLE  
MISS.

WHY DO  
YOU LOOK  
SO SAD?

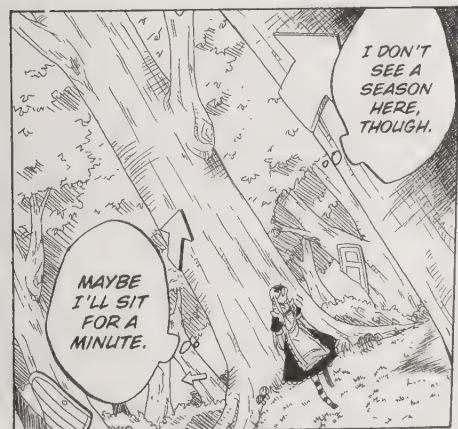
...BUT  
THERE'S  
STILL A PART  
OF ME THAT  
WANTS TO  
FIT IN WITH  
EVERYONE—



...I DON'T  
REMEMBER  
THIS  
FOREST.

AND IS  
THAT  
MUSIC? IT  
SOUNDS  
SO FAR  
AWAY...

MAYBE  
THERE'S A  
FESTIVAL  
GOING ON  
SOME-  
WHERE.



I DON'T  
SEE A  
SEASON  
HERE,  
THOUGH.

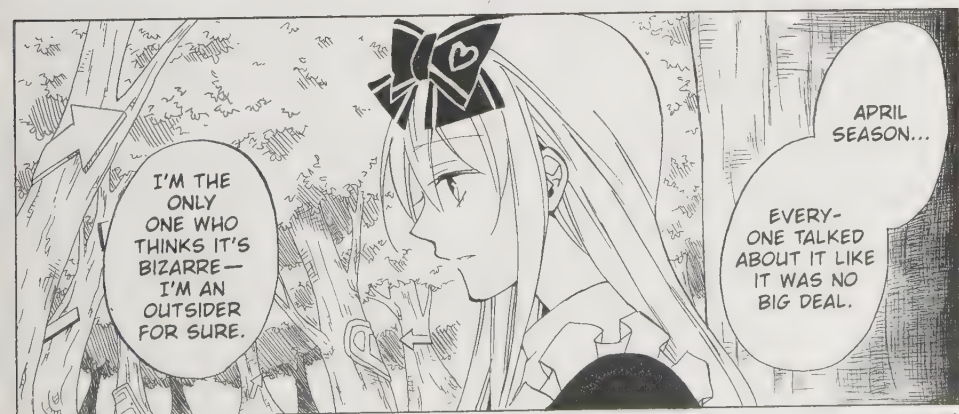
MAYBE  
I'LL SIT  
FOR A  
MINUTE.



I'M  
REALLY  
TIRED.

OUTTARI  
(PHEW)

ALL FOUR  
SEASONS  
AT ONCE IS  
EXHAUST-  
ING.



I'M THE  
ONLY  
ONE WHO  
THINKS IT'S  
BIZARRE—  
I'M AN  
OUTSIDER  
FOR SURE.

APRIL  
SEASON...

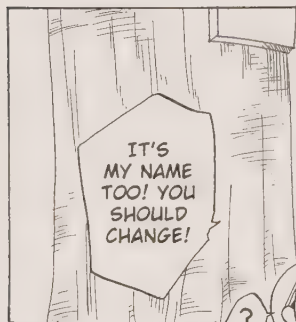
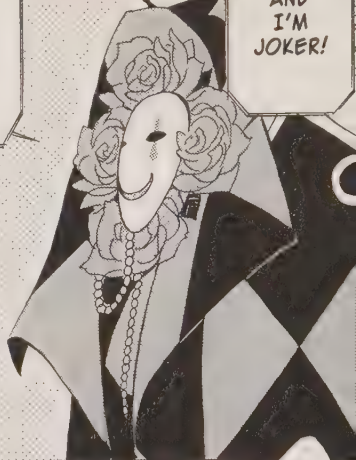
EVERY-  
ONE TALKED  
ABOUT IT LIKE  
IT WAS NO  
BIG DEAL.





NICE TO  
MEET YA,  
SIS!

AND  
I'M  
JOKER!



IT'S  
MY NAME  
TOO! YOU  
SHOULD  
CHANGE!

SHUT UP, JOKER.  
THIS WOULDN'T  
HAPPEN IF YOU'D  
JUST CHANGE  
YOUR NAME!

JOKER'S  
MY NAME.

HOW MANY  
TIMES DO I HAVE  
TO SAY IT?

?

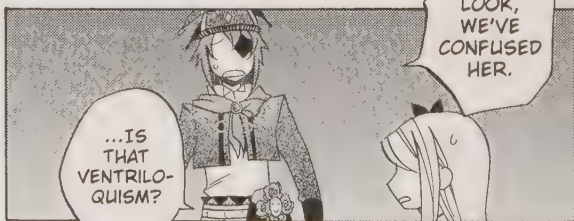


HEY!

YOU'LL  
CONFUSE  
THE  
GIRL. GO  
BACK IN,  
JOKER.

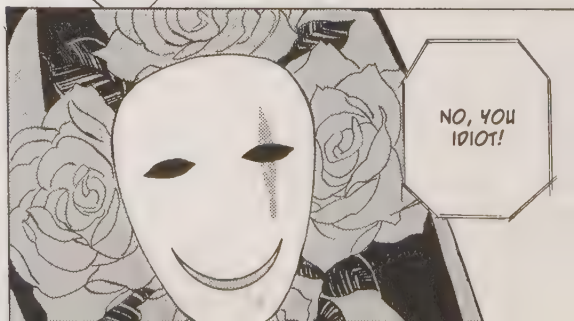


WELL,  
I'VE  
GOTTEN  
USED TO  
FREAKS  
POPPING  
UP OUT OF  
NOWHERE  
...

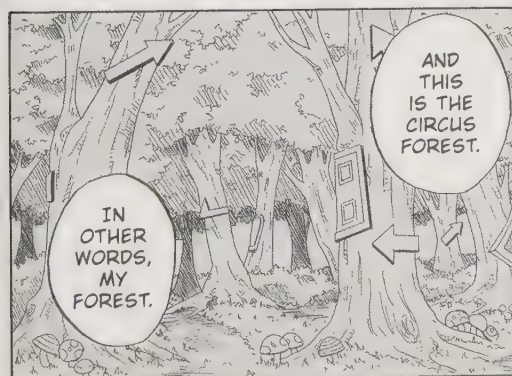
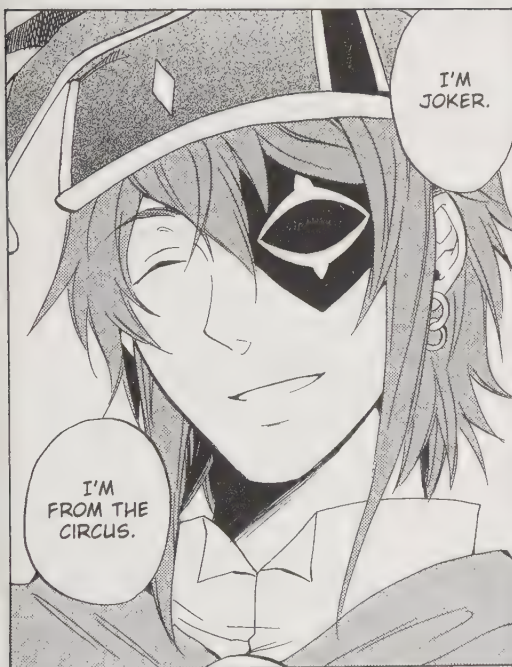


...IS  
THAT  
VENTRILO-  
QUISM?

AW...  
LOOK,  
WE'VE  
CONFUSED  
HER.



NO, YOU  
IDIOT!



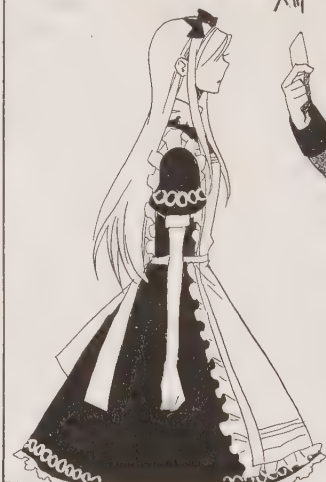




IT'S  
ALSO  
BECAUSE  
YOU  
PROBABLY  
NEED ME.

91  
(9106)

7<sub>W</sub>



SURE.

BUT  
NOT  
JUST  
THAT.

WHAT  
DO YOU  
MEAN?

?



BUT THE  
LAND WILL  
STABILIZE SOON.  
THEN YOU CAN  
ONLY GO TO  
PLACES WITH THE  
SAME SEASON AS  
WHERE YOU'RE  
LIVING.

WHAT  
...?

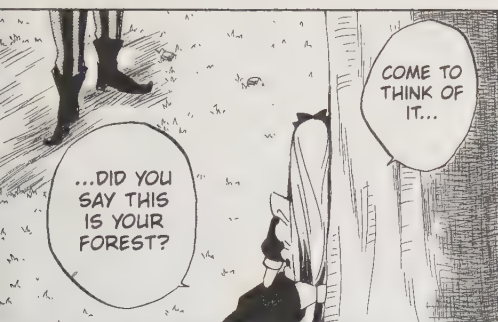


THIS  
WORLD JUST  
ENTERED APRIL  
SEASON, SO IT'S  
STILL PRETTY  
UNSTABLE.

THAT'S  
WHY YOU  
WERE ABLE  
TO TRAVEL  
AROUND SO  
EASILY.







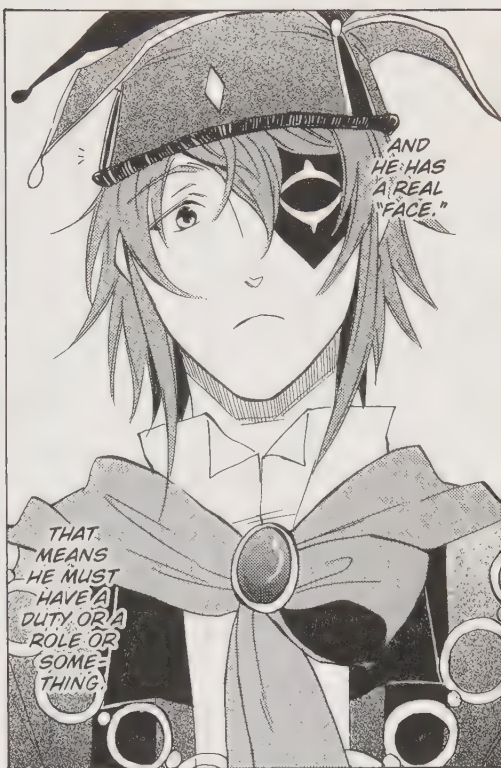
...DID YOU SAY THIS IS YOUR FOREST?

COME TO THINK OF IT...



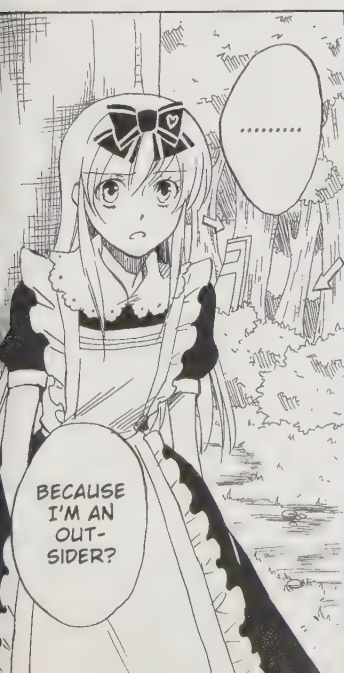
ONLY AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ARE ALLOWED IN.

RIGHT — IT'S THE CIRCUS FOREST.



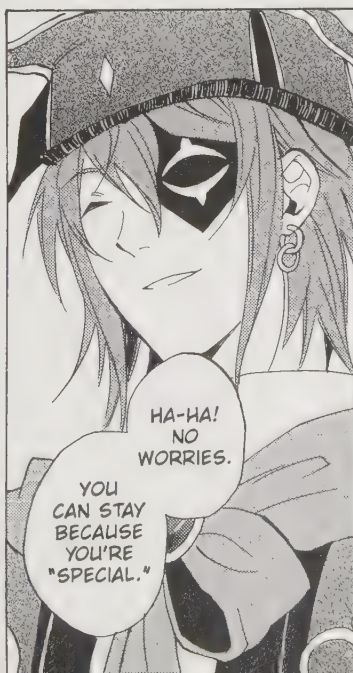
AND HE HAS A REAL "FACE."

THAT MEANS HE MUST HAVE A DUTY OR A ROLE OR SOMETHING.



\*\*\*\*\*

BECAUSE I'M AN OUT-SIDER?



HA-HA! NO WORRIES.

YOU CAN STAY BECAUSE YOU'RE "SPECIAL."



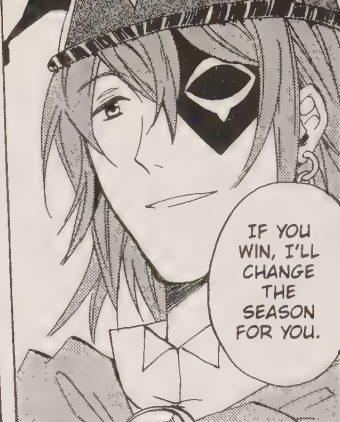
REALLY? I'M SORRY, I DIDN'T KNOW...

I DIDN'T MEAN TO WANDER IN WITHOUT —

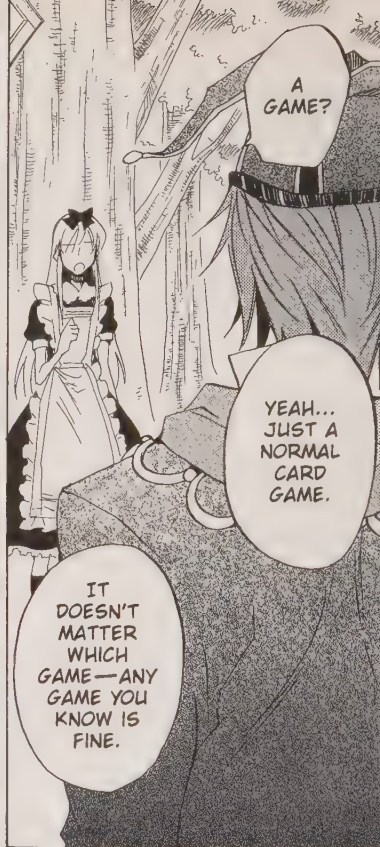


YOU  
CAN  
DO  
THAT?

SURE  
I  
CAN!



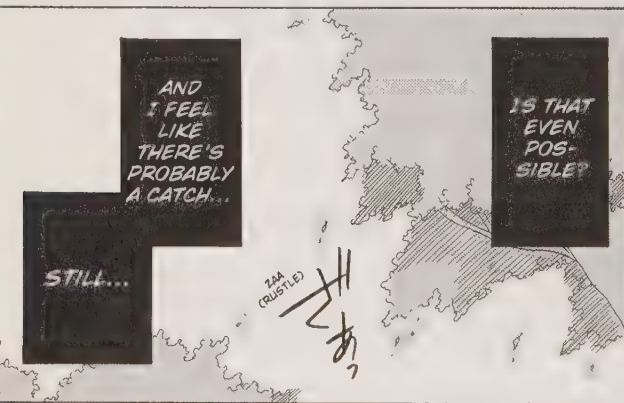
IF YOU  
WIN, I'LL  
CHANGE  
THE  
SEASON  
FOR YOU.



A  
GAME?

YEAH...  
JUST A  
NORMAL  
CARD  
GAME.

IT  
DOESN'T  
MATTER  
WHICH  
GAME—ANY  
GAME YOU  
KNOW IS  
FINE.



AND  
I FEEL  
LIKE  
THERE'S  
PROBABLY  
A CATCH...

IS THAT  
EVEN  
POS-  
SIBLE?

STILL...

ZAA  
(RUSTLE)



—FINE.

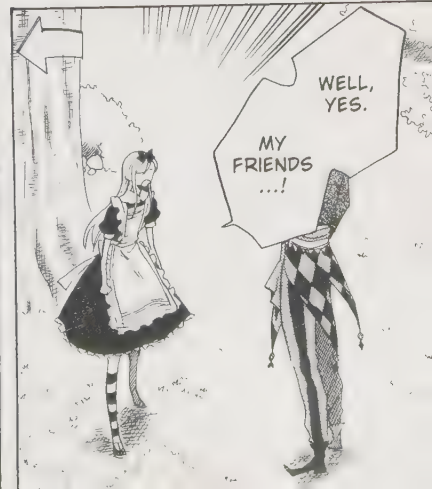
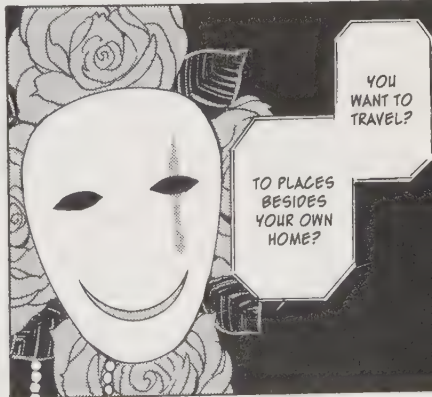
I WILL  
PLAY  
AGAINST  
YOU.

...IF  
THERE'S  
A WAY TO  
CONTINUE  
TO SEE  
EVERY-  
ONE...



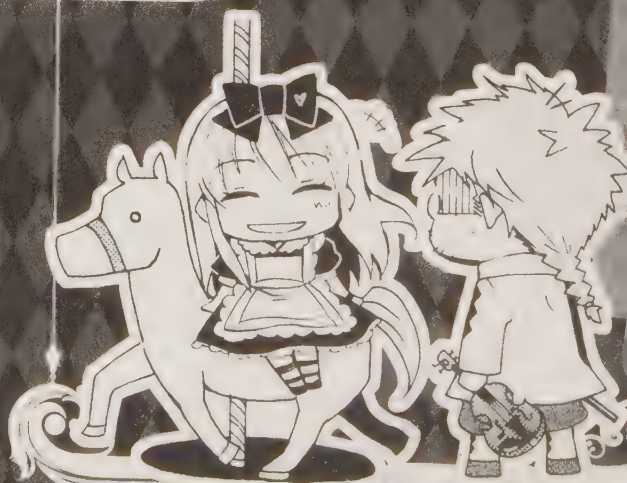
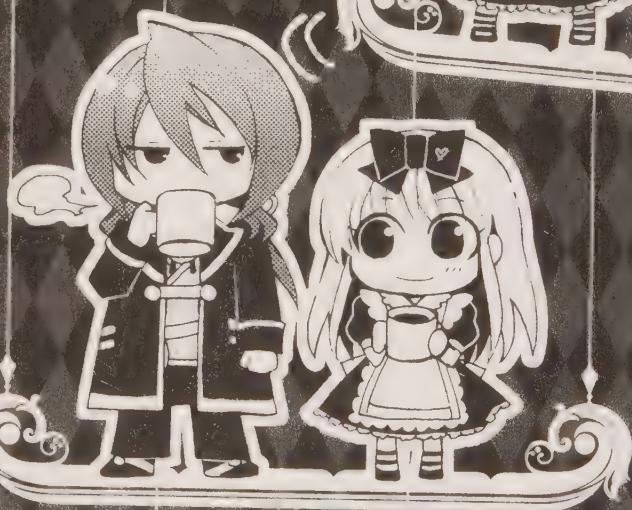
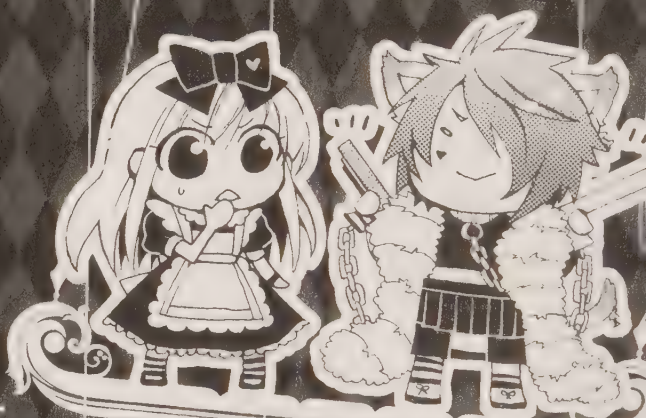
I  
THOUGHT  
I COULD  
ALWAYS  
SEE  
EVERY-  
ONE.

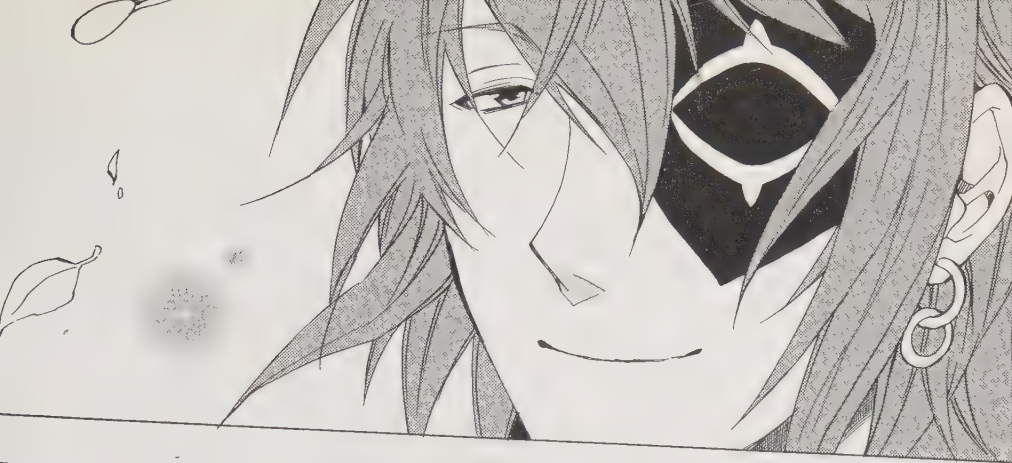
I COULD  
ALWAYS TRAVEL  
WHEREVER I  
WANTED IN THIS  
WORLD TILL  
NOW—





# ALICE IN THE COUNTRY OF HEARTS





NOW  
THEN,  
ALICE...

...LET  
THE GAME  
BEGIN.



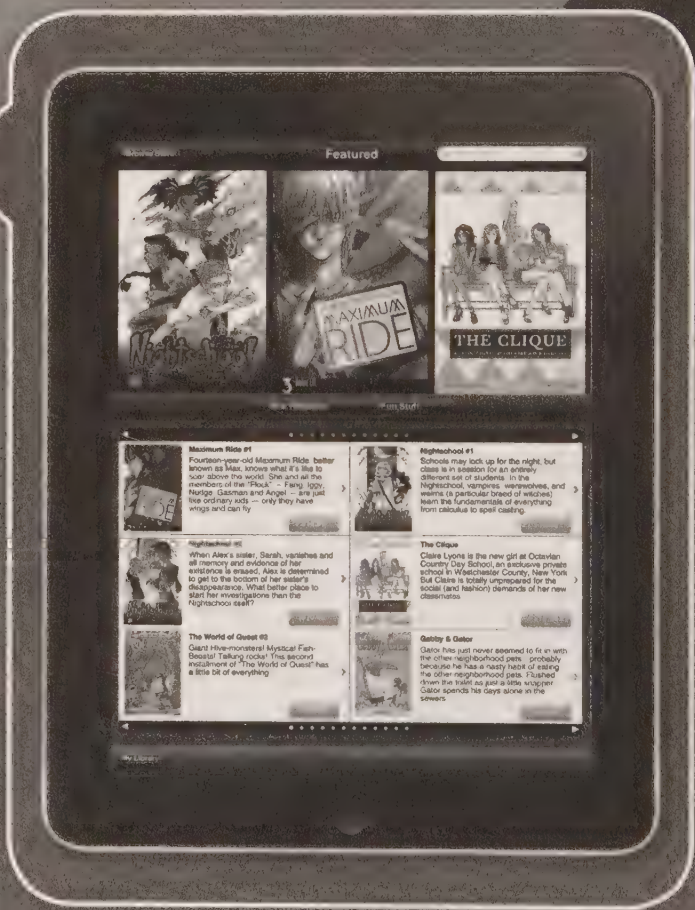
Alice in the Country of Joker ♥ The End



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Now for  
iPhone  
too!

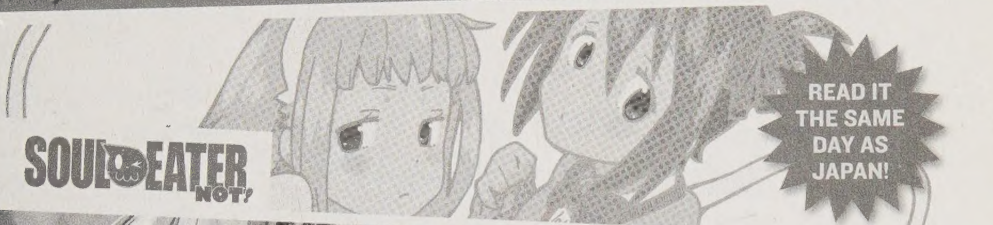


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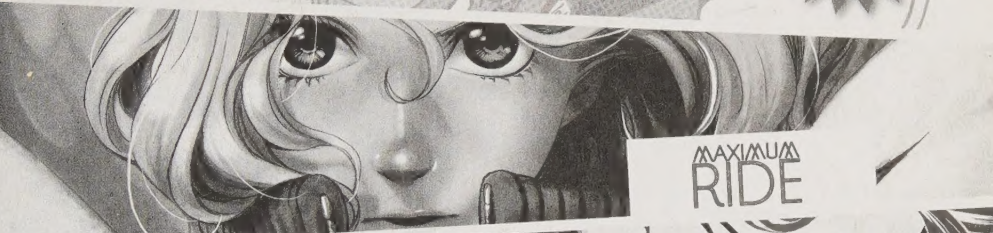
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NOT

READ IT  
THE SAME  
DAY AS  
JAPAN!



**MAXIMUM  
RIDE**



**SOULLESS**



**WITCH  
WIZARD**



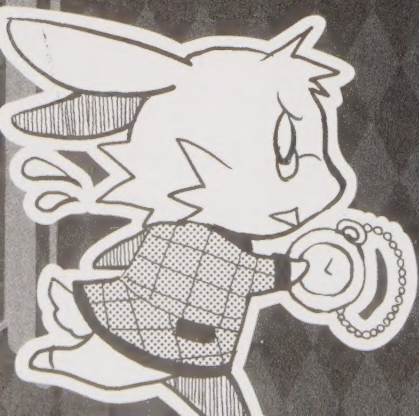
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# ALICE IN THE COUNTRY OF HEARTS

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Alice in the Country of Hearts